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The International Magazine for the Wire & Cable Industries

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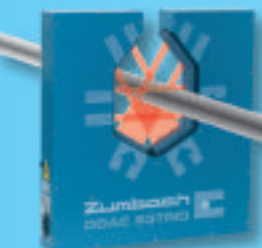
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THE WIRE CHINA INTERNATIONAL
 WIRE & CABLE SHOW BY TRADE FAIR

September 23 - 26, 2008
 Wire China Shanghai

Booth # W1F01

FIB BELGIUM sa CONTINUOUS LINES AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE WIRE INDUSTRY

New facility from January 2008



After 62 years of activity in the Brussels facility, FIB moved to a new, bigger and better place in SAINTES (25 km SW of Brussels, Belgium). With 5000 square meters of workshop and 1200 square meters of offices, the new place offers many advantages. Further to the existing machines, the workshop will include new steel manufacturing facility. The workshop also includes a new furnace for the manufacturing of burners and refractory parts used on our installations. FIB is the world largest manufacturer of continuous lines for the steel wire industry and the only one to propose his own burner system, the famous FIB premix system. The largest portion of our products, steel casing, refractory lining, combustion piping, are fully designed and manufactured in our premises. It is your guarantee of quality. The new facility also includes better conditions for R&D, pre-assembling and inspection of equipment before delivery. All in one, this investment will help us to better serve and welcome our customers.

Growing activity and consolidated business with our customers

Active in an ever growing wire business, we are proud to announce several repeated orders from long term customers such as ARCELOR MITTAL, China, Hungary, Luxembourg, BEKAERT, Belgium, DSR, Korea, ELSEWEDY, Egypt, GERDAU ACOS LONGOS, Brazil, JIAXING EASTERN STEEL CORD, China, KISWIRE, Korea & Malaysia, MANHO, Korea, MAZZOLENI, Italy, MMK-METIZ, Russia, PIRELLI, Italy & Brazil, SHANGDON SNTON STEEL CORD CO, China, TATA STEEL WIRE DIVISION, India.

We are also pleased with quite a lot of orders from new customers such as CELIK HALAT and HAS CELIK, Turkey, for patenting and galvanizing lines, CORD BUZAU, for a hose wire line, LINDEMANN & STORMER, Germany for a 70 Ton-annealing bell-type furnace, MAFO and ECW, Egypt, for zinc wiping systems, TECNOFIL, Italy, for an annealing and galvanizing line, STALKANAT, Ukraine, for two patenting with Ecoquench.

ECOQUENCH. for economy and ecology

Our quenching fluid bed "Ecoquench" is getting more and more popular on patenting lines for rope wire and steel cord. In combination with our famous and unequalled open fire furnace, the uniformity and wire structure makes our "Ecoquench" incomparable patenting equipment. **Economy** is real with a lower cost of operation (compared to lead bath). **Ecology** is saved with this lead free installation. This latest generation of "Ecoquench" is now available and already ordered by two famous steel cord and tire producers.



Optimizing the pay-back of your galvanizing line



FIB helps you in being more competitive on the market by saving zinc while improving your products quality: opt for our FIB line with ZINC MONITORING SYSTEM. BEKAERT, Belgium, GERDAU, Brazil, HÖRLE TRAD, Slovakia, JIANGSU FASTEN, China, UNITED WIRE COMPANY SEWEDY, Egypt, WRCA WISCO, China, IFP, Italy, SOUTHERN WIRE, Malaysia, UZPS, Russia, UNITED FACTORIES GULF WIRE and AL FAISAL STEEL PRODUCTS, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, TATA STEEL, India, SOCITREL, Portugal, MAZZOLENI, Italy, have already chosen our Dynamic Wiping with Zinc and Zinc/Aluminum Monitoring. In total, it is about 350 units.

Wire Exhibitions in 2008:

Wire China 2008 from 23 to 26/09/2008 - Visit our booth W1-F01

Wire & Cable India 2008 from 20 to 22/11/2008 - Visit our booth C33

www.fib.be



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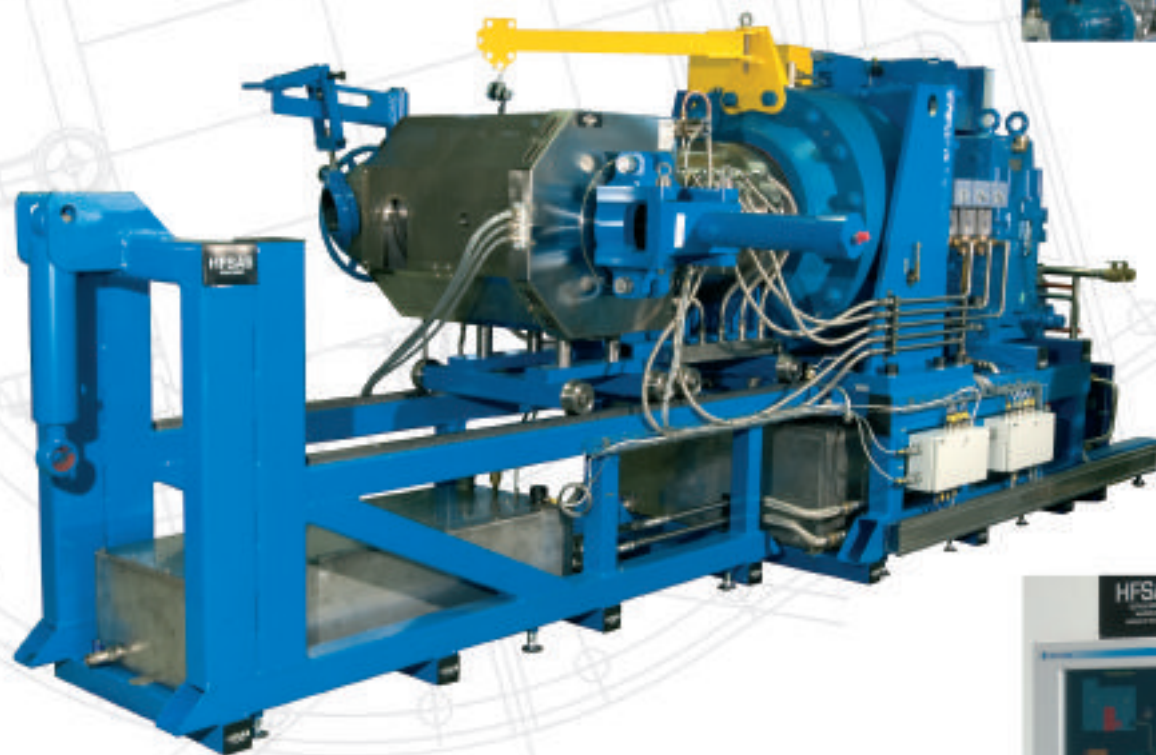
World leading supplier of Lead Sheathing Equipment to the cable industry!

H. Folke Sandelin AB (HFSAB) are happy to announce that we have sold and delivered our new, fully automatic, horizontal lead extruder to several customers around the world.

HFSAB is the only designer, manufacturer and supplier of the original Hansson-Robertson Lead Extruder. We deliver new and second hand refurbished lead extrusion lines as well as spare parts.

With over 50 years of experience and product development, HFSAB is the only company with the ability to successfully commission, service and support such equipment.

- *Horizontal extruder*
- *Fully automatic*
- *Floor standing unit*
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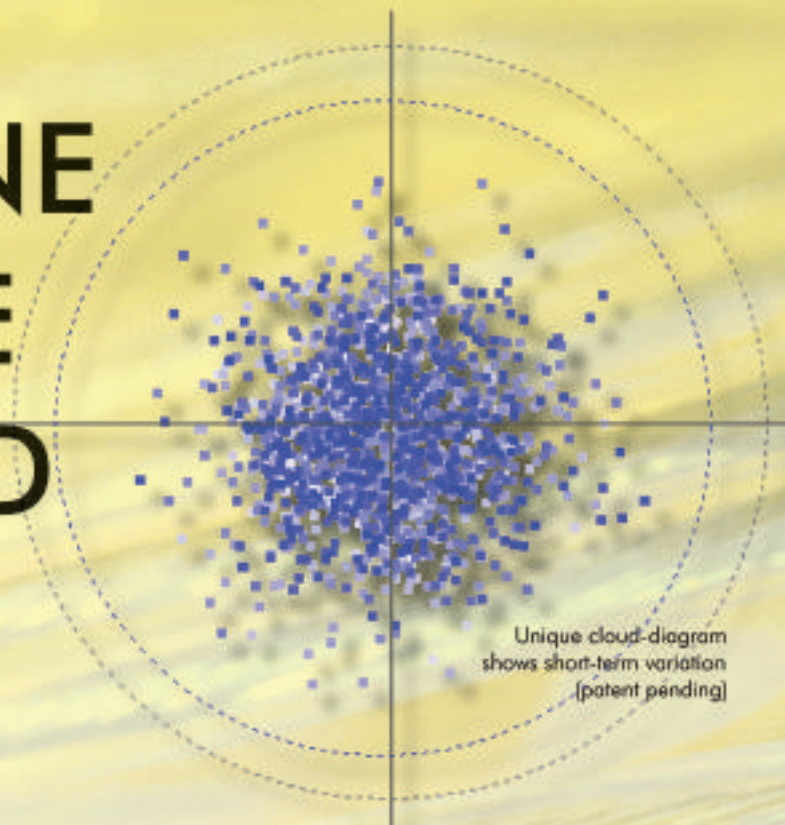


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SUBSIDIARY OF TECK COMINCO

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E-mail. hfsab@hfsab.com
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0.5 μ m/ 0.05 μ m/ 0.005 μ m



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Wire China/ Shanghai
September 23-26, 2008

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SIKORA
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The world under one roof

Welcome to the September issue of EuroWire, compiled during the heat of the summer but with an eye to the autumn. Well, when I say heat I mean the occasional glint of sunshine through rain clouds; much of the UK has toiled under a damp, grey start to the holiday season.

However, let's look beyond the domestic and raise our eyes to the East.

This year, China is playing host to two notable events. By the time this magazine lands in readers' hands the first event will be over, but many of our readers will be eagerly anticipating the second.

The two events are of quite different orders of magnitude. The first, the Olympic Games, is a world sporting event that brings together sportsmen and women in a spirit of friendly competition, bound by a common passion and mutual focus.

The second, wire China 2008, is a rather smaller affair that probably won't make it to either the front or back pages of any national newspaper, but it's an important event to readers of this journal and within the wire and cable sector across the world.

The Olympic Games at one extreme, wire China at the other, but both bringing nations together under one roof in a spirit of competition, cooperation and discovery.

This issue includes a list of confirmed exhibitors. It's not intended to replace the wire China catalogue, but we thought that visitors and non-visitors would be interested to see who will be there. It's an interesting mix, with exhibitors from Taiwan to Turkey, India to Italy, Ukraine to the USA.

wire China will represent a world industry willing to talk and work together regardless of cultural, religious and political differences. Maybe it doesn't have the glamour of the Olympics but it is cooperation, and through cooperation comes understanding on both sides.

Perhaps where sport and industry lead, hearts and minds can follow.



Gill Watson

The International Magazine for the Wire and Cable Industries



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See page 96 for further details

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A technical drawing of a mechanical part is overlaid on a photograph of a curved metal component. The drawing shows dimensions: 2, 3.5, and 4.5. The metal part has the number '0016' engraved on it.

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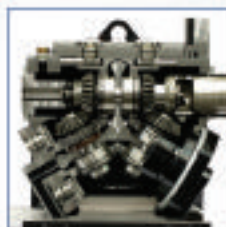
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New wire and cable solutions for high-heat environments

By Kurt Bolz, Flame Retardant Application Technology Leader, Dow Wire & Cable; Peter Dreux, Ph D, Senior New Business Development Specialist, Dow Wire & Cable; and Erik Groot-Enzerink, Senior Development Specialist, Dow Wire & Cable

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A cura di Kurt Bolz, Responsabile del settore della Tecnologia delle Applicazioni Ignifughe, Dow Wire & Cable; Peter Dreux, Ph D, Specialista senior nello Sviluppo di Nuove Attività, Dow Wire & Cable; ed Erik Groot-Enzerink, Specialista senior di Sviluppo, Dow Wire & Cable

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Por Kurt Bolz, experto en de Tecnología de Aplicación de Retardantes de la Llama, de Dow Wire & Cable; Peter Dreux, Ph D, especialista senior en Desarrollo de Nuevos Negocios, de Dow Wire & Cable; y Erik Groot-Enzerink, especialista senior en Desarrollo, de Dow Wire & Cable

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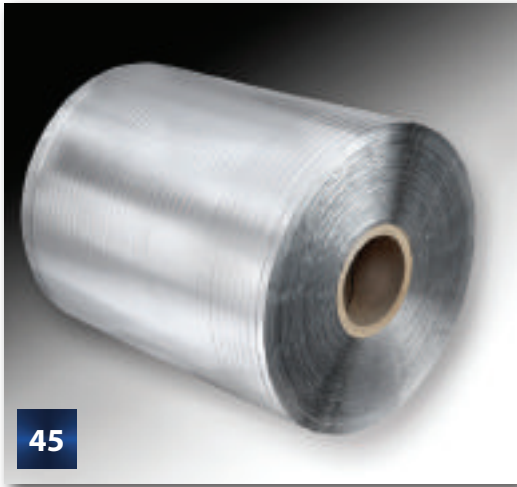


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dates for your diary ...

IWCS Technical Conference

November

9-12: **IWCS** – technical conference –
Rhode Island, USA
Organisers: IWCS Inc
Fax: +1 732 389 0991
Email: admin@iwcs.org
Website: www.iwcs.org

November

20-22: **Wire and Cable India** – trade
exhibition – Mumbai, India
Organisers: CII
Fax: +91 22 2493 9463
Email: info@ciionline.org
Website: www.ciionline.org

2009

April

25-30: **Interwire** – trade exhibition –
Cleveland, USA
Organisers: Wire Association Intl
Fax: +1 203 453 8384
Email: info@wirenet.org
Website: www.wirenet.org

May

12-15: **wire Russia 2009** – trade exhibition –
Moscow, Russia
Organisers:
Messe Düsseldorf GmbH
Fax: +49 211 4560 7740
Email: info@wire-russia.com
Website: www.wire-russia.com

June

10-12: **Wires & Fasteners Ukraine 2009** –
trade exhibition – Kiev, Ukraine
Organisers: TDS – Expo
Email: olga@welding.kiev.ua
Website: www.weldexpo.com.ua

October

6-8: **Metaltech/Tubotech** – trade exhibition –
Sao Paulo, Brazil
Organisers: Grupo Cipa
Email:
international@cipanet.com.br
Website: www.cipanet.com.br

13-15: **wire/Tube SE Asia** – trade exhibition –
Bangkok, Thailand
Organisers: Messe Düsseldorf Asia Pte Ltd
Email: wire@mda.com.sg
Website:
www.wire-southeastasia.com

November

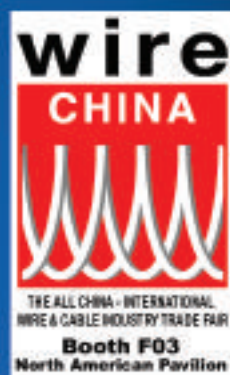
2-3: **Cable & Wire 09** – joint technical
conference – Istanbul, Turkey
Organisers: IWMA, WIA, ACIMAF
Fax: +44 1926 314755
Email: info@iwma.org
Website: www.iwma.org

2010

April

12-16: **wire Düsseldorf 2010** – trade
exhibition – Düsseldorf, Germany
Organisers:
Messe Düsseldorf GmbH
Fax: +49 211 4560 87 7793
Email: info@messe-duesseldorf.de
Website: www.messe-duesseldorf.com

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Wheelabrator marks 100 years with Polish manufacturing centre

Wheelabrator Group has marked 100 years of metallic surface preparation with the opening a new manufacturing facility in Poland.

Now formally open and operational, the new €7million plant in Wrzesnia, near Poznan, will manufacture a complete line of surface preparation equipment and components.

The 35,000m² site will produce air and wheel blast equipment to meet local and global demands. The new manufacturing centre is key to supporting the company's aim of producing a range of machines with a 6 – 12 week delivery time, as well as supporting the company's technology centres in the manufacture of its custom-built solutions.

Robert E. Joyce Jr, president and CEO of Wheelabrator Group, said: "Wheelabrator has three target growth areas: Asia, India and Central Europe. We looked at a number of the surrounding countries before settling in Poland.

"The company already has a small plant in Zagorow, near Konin, but we needed a larger facility to fully support our



▲ The official opening of the latest Wheelabrator facility

development strategies and our growing order book. The investment in Wrzesnia establishes a strong local presence in the region, as we have been operating there for over ten years now, and we are pleased that this new investment coincides with our centenary celebrations."

"The Wrzesnia facility enables us to commit to our customers' long-term growth plans," Mr Joyce continued.

Wheelabrator Group worked with a specialist in industrial buildings to build the new facility. The centre has been designed for a workforce of 250 people, spread across the manufacturing, design, warehousing and administration functions.

Wheelabrator Group – UK
Email: info@wheelabratorgroup.com
Website: www.wheelabratorgroup.com

Componenta changes pricing cycle

Prices for main raw materials such as recycled steel scrap and pig iron produced from iron ore have risen more than 100% since the end of 2007.

Componenta is therefore adopting a price balancing system that updates the effect of raw material prices on a monthly basis instead of the earlier quarterly adjustments.

The raw material price compensation system introduced by Componenta in 2004 with quarterly evaluation periods has proven not to be able to follow the rapid changes fast enough.

The new system will take care that there are no significant differences between materials purchased and products invoiced. Should the material prices go down, the new system will also lead to faster compensation to customers.

The impact on Q2/2008 invoicing and operating profit is estimated to be approximately 5%.

Componenta Corporation – Finland
Fax: +358 10 403 2721
Website: www.componenta.com

New website for cable customers

Scapa has launched a new Cable Solutions website.

In addition to offering a new categorised product search facility, customers will be able to find more information on each of the many products Scapa Cable Solutions has to offer, as well as being able to download technical data sheets and view up-to-date product literature.

Scapa's Cable Solutions is a dedicated range of cable wrapping tapes and components for the cable industry.

The Scapa Cable Solutions product ranges can be divided into two core product groups – the extensive range of Cable Wrapping Tapes supplied direct to cable manufacturers, and the Cable Components range.

The new website can be found at: www.scapacable.com

Scapa Cable Solutions – UK
Fax: +44 161 301 7445
Email: sales@scapacable.com
Website: www.scapacable.com



Latest acquisition by Nexans

Nexans has signed an agreement for the acquisition of the Italian company Intercond, a European manufacturer of special cables, mainly for industrial equipment including subsea activities.

The acquisition of this company, which had total sales of €60 million (at current metal prices) in 2007 and currently employs 150 people, complements

Nexans' existing business units based in Europe.

The €90 million Enterprise Value agreed by both parties corresponds to five to six times the expected 2008 EBITDA (before synergies).

This operation will be accretive in the first full fiscal year.

"This acquisition fits totally into Nexans strategy by increasing the portion of our business in high value-added special cables," said Gérard Hauser, chairman and CEO of Nexans.

Nexans – France

Fax: +33 15669 8484

Email: nexans.web@nexans.com

Website: www.nexans.com

NIEHOFF - VNIKIP cooperation

Maschinenfabrik Niehoff and All-Russian Scientific Research and Development Cable Institute VNIKIP with the associated Trade House of VNIKIP have concluded a cooperation agreement.

From July 1st 2008 the Trade House of VNIKIP will act as an adviser for Niehoff in the markets of Russia, Belarus, Armenia and Uzbekistan with the objective of further contact development and intensification between Niehoff and the companies in this economic area, particularly companies of the wire and cable industry.

VNIKIP has earned international acceptance through its performance as scientific research and test centre for the development of cables and cable technologies and its responsible activities in the area of standardisation and certification.

In practice the agreement will mainly be realised via close cooperation and information exchange between VNIKIP and Niehoff of Russia, founded in 2005 in Moscow.

At present this branch consists of nine native speaking Russian employees, responsible for customer service, installation and commissioning of machinery, spare parts supply and after sales service.

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Website: www.niehoff.de

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wire and Tube together again in Düsseldorf

The date for wire 2010 and Tube 2010 is confirmed. wire, International Wire and Cable Trade Fair, and Tube, International Tube Trade Fair, will be open for business from April 12th to 16th. Once again, the industries will be showcased in the halls of the Düsseldorf Exhibition Centre in 2010.

wire 2008 achieved the highest-ever level of international participation. 59% of the visitors came from abroad, making wire one of the most international events in the Messe Düsseldorf portfolio. The show also reported a visitor increase of 18% compared with the previous event in 2006. At that time, the percentage increase of international visitors was 11%.

German visitors accounted for a visitor growth rate of 7%. The number of exhibitors rose by 5%, and the combined display area increased by 9%, reflecting the market's needs.

The product range at wire 2010 will focus again on current technologies for wire, cable and fibre optics, spring and fasteners manufacturing as well as all aspects of the industries surrounding wires and cables.

Messe Düsseldorf GmbH – Germany

Fax: +49 211 45 6087 7793

Email: info@messe-duesseldorf.de

Website: www.messe-duesseldorf.de

New product brochures for 2008

Maschinenfabrik Niehoff has produced a completely new set of product brochures.

Niehoff is continually modifying and expanding its product range. In keeping with these developments it has become necessary to present the whole range of products and services in a more appropriate format. As a result the entire collection of Niehoff product materials was updated and given a re-design.

The new, clearly arranged leaflets have a standardised format with product pictures accompanied by detailed technical data. The essential characteristics of each product are highlighted.

The new brochures are printed in English, German, and Russian. Copies are available from Niehoff headquarters, subsidiaries, sales and service companies or through the website.

Maschinenfabrik Niehoff GmbH & Co KG – Germany

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Email: info@niehoff.de

Website: www.niehoff.de

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tel:0086-335-3893600, fax:0086-335-3870760,
email: anbao@anbao.net, website: www.anbao.net

Round table with Cortinovis Machinery

One year after the 20th anniversary of activity the Italian Eurolls Group, a worldwide producer and supplier for the wire, cable and tube industries, will celebrate its own 'Bergamo pole', i.e. the group of associated firms (Cortinovis Machinery Spa, Team Meccanica Spa and Vitari Spa), synergistically located in Val Brembo town, near Bergamo (Lombardy).

A big event is planned, with the participation of the major Italian political authorities and specialised media of the industry.

The core of the event will be not only the opening of the new factory of Cortinovis Machinery Spa, but also an important round table event to outline the direction of a company (Cortinovis Machinery is a historical name) and a group which are growing amidst a general scene of recession, facing it with long-term strategic plans.

An impressive setting is planned for the event, to be held at the Cortinovis Machinery works on 10th October.

Cortinovis Machinery – Italy

Fax: +39 035 313211

Email: cortinovis@cortinovis.it

Website: www.cortinovismachinery.com



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All parameters required for the formation of the pattern laid coil, as well as production information, are set on the spooler control pulpit.

TEUREMA - Poligono Txirrita - Maleo, 10 - 20.100 Errenteria (SPAIN)
Phone (+ 34) 943341919 - e-mail: teurema@teurema.com - www.teurema.com

The Eurolls Group Companies are exclusively represented in North America by:
Cortinovis America, Inc. - 1014A Route 173 Bloomsbury New Jersey 08804
Phone: 908-236-0400 - e-mail: cortinovis@cortinovisamerica.com - www.cortinovisamerica.com

Ridgway extends its taping territory

Ridgway adopts a flexible approach for the cable industry and offers customised taping solutions – often designing new taping heads to meet specific customer requirements.

With a choice of vertical and horizontal machines Ridgway offers taping solutions for cables from 0.75mm² to 70,000mm².

For large cable armouring Ridgway offers a version of its pipe reinforcing machinery, capable of applying up to six steel tapes from one head.

Using the latest telemetry, load cells and servo drives it is possible to maintain constant tape tension through tape pads to 1,000mm.

Ridgway has developed new markets in the emerging economies. A two bay high speed taping line has just been delivered in Poland for the covering of solid, stranded and sector cables. At the end of last year, a Slovakian company took a 33-tape line.

Ridgway has just booked its 11th high speed taping line for India in three years since re-entering this buoyant market with its servo controlled multibay lines.

These lines for paper and mica offer large capacity with 400mm tape pads on 4-pad tangential heads giving high throughput running at 1,000rpm.

There has also been a rise in demand for lines producing bunched paper conductors.



▲ A typical taping line from Ridgway Machines

Penetration of new markets has helped Ridgway achieve year on year growth of 60% over the last 3 years. Sales have been achieved in all continents with exports representing 90% of revenues.

Ridgway Machines Ltd has just launched a new website detailing its range of taping machines for the electrical coil, cable and conductor and pipeline industries.

Ridgway Machines – UK
Fax: +44 116 235 3057
Email: shunt@ridgwayeng.com
Website: www.ridgwayeng.com

FAC for the Arcelor Mittal walking beam furnace

Tenova LOI Italimpianti, a major supplier of industrial furnaces and services to the metal industry, has received the FAC (Final Acceptance Certificate) for the Arcelor Mittal 450 t/h walking beam furnace at the MSPKK Hot Strip Mill in Krakow, only four months after start up.

The scope of the Tenova contract, included in a Siemens VAI package, was for engineering, supply and supervision services for erection and commissioning.

The Tenova LOI Italimpianti furnace is equipped with the latest Tenova technology combustion system with the patented FlexyTech[®] Low-NOx burners, which achieved significantly lower emissions than the values guaranteed.

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Please contact: Mr Michel Landman

E-mail: michel.landman@wiresteel.be

Website: www.wiresteel.be



Investing in the future

Polifibra Group has moved its original Italian production plant to a new location and invested in a new laminator for the cable market, a new solvent recovery system and a new data processing (SAP) system, enabling the effective organisation of this new facility.

The most important investment has been the new larger factory, which with its increased space and restructured raw materials, planning, laminating, slitting and logistical departments, will provide a better logistical platform from which to work towards improving efficiency in all of these key areas.

The second important investment has been the installation of a new laminator, together with the installation of two new spoolers in its facilities in France and Germany.

The new laminator, which can process up to 1,600mm wide, replaces a previous machine that could only process 1,000mm width. The increased capacity will be dedicated to the research and development of new products and markets, while continuing to support its existing customers requirements.

Mr Luigi Penzo, chairman of Polifibra Group states that, "Any modern production facility, to be successful, must be organised and structured, with a firm control over its internal processes."

In recent years, this philosophy has enabled Mr Penzo to successfully implement many changes with the internal structure of Polifibra, promoting "a more customer oriented approach," focusing on customers' present and future needs.

With the installation of a new solvent recovery system, Polifibra is working towards accreditation of the environmental management system ISO 14001, adopting high quality standards to satisfy the most demanding needs of its customers, while endeavouring to control and limit the environmental impact of its activities.

Mr Penzo suggests, "The first benefits of the restructured Polifibra are already beginning to show, with a reduction in purchasing lead time, due to better control of raw materials. We have also improved our customer service, due to better control of our manufacturing processes. The current global economic market is certainly a challenging one, however the changes we have made will ensure our continued success for many more years to come."

Polifibra SpA - Italy
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CHRIS WHEATLEY / Swansea, South Wales
Tel: +44 1269843027 / chris@cjwiretech.com

Pourtier line for ABB HV cables

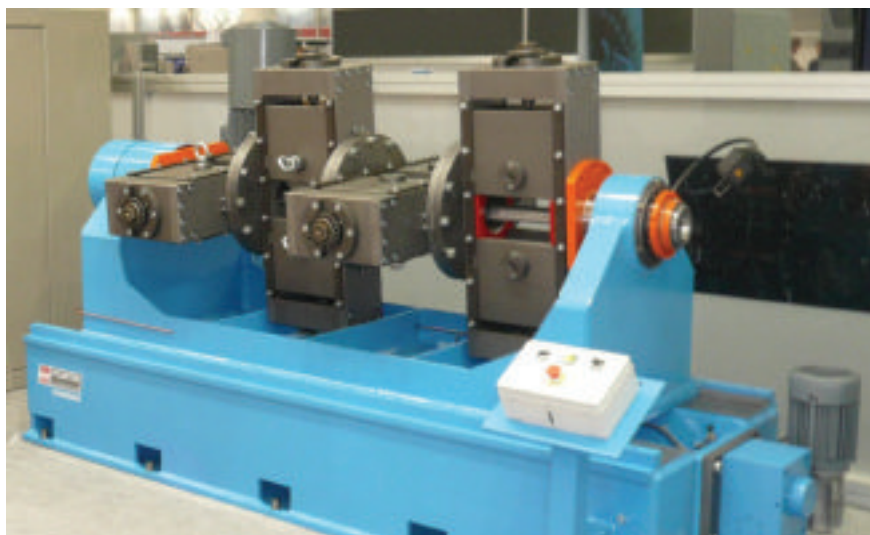
Pourtier - Gauder Group has been granted an order for a project for ABB HV cables in Sweden.

Having manufactured cables for over 120 years, ABB has a long tradition in the high voltage field, especially in underground XLPE and HVDC submarine cables.

The challenge consists of one stranding line and one screening line to manufacture very large diameter power cables.

The 128-wire rigid cage stranding line is composed of 5 cages (12+18+24+30+36) and is specially designed for the production of round conductors with profiled wire, as well as pre-spiralled segmental conductors for high voltage and extra high voltage cables. This is achieved using a new "jumbo" pre-spiralling and compacting head with four pairs of rollers 300mm diameter, as well as a double wheel capstan of 4m diameter with 40 tons pulling force.

Pourtier has developed a safe, side loading automatic robot system that handles a complete rack without loading



▲ ABB is a long standing client of Pourtier-Gauder Group

or unloading reels one by one. The second part of the project is a rigid cage screening line: 84 wires made of two cages of 42 reels (6 rows of 7).

The line is equipped with two automatic loading trucks.

ABB bought its first Pourtier Milliken drum twister line 15 years ago.

Pourtier - Gauder Group – France

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Email:anbao@anbao.com Web: www.anbao.com

Make a date for Cables in 2009

Applied Market Information has announced Cables 2009. The ninth edition of the conference will take place from 2nd - 4th March 2009 at the Maritim Hotel, Cologne.

The conference will look in detail at key developments in material, flame retardants, technology and cross-linking and the potential for improved cable performance, as well as the latest material, technology, and business trends in Europe.

Registrations before 28th September 2008 will receive a 25% discount on the standard fee.

Full details and delegate registration can be found on the website.

2009 will also see the first Plastics in Cables International conference and exhibition for the cables industry, to be held from 31st March to 1st April 2009 at The Crowne Plaza San Marcos Resort, Phoenix, Arizona.

Applied Market Information Ltd – UK

Fax: +44 117 311 1534

Email: rm@amiplastics.com

Website: www.amiplastics.com



Nexans supplies airfield lighting cable for Abu Dhabi International Airport

Nexans has completed the installation of airfield lighting cables for the Phase Two expansion project for Abu Dhabi International airport.

Phase Two began in late 2006 for completion in 2010, and includes the construction of a new super-sized midfield terminal building, along with a second parallel 4,100m runway, a new aircraft control tower and new cargo facilities.

The project demanded 1,900 km of 5 kV primary cable (FAA L-824C) to provide power for the lighting transformers and 770 km of H07FN-F secondary cable, connecting the transformers to the airfield lights. Nexans supplied the airfield lighting cable to Crouse Hinds, the US-based lighting specialist in charge of the cable installation. The 12-month contract, valued at around 2.6 million euros, commenced in May 2007.

Nexans was awarded the contract because its cables comply with the relevant international specifications for airfield applications as well as being priced competitively.

The new mega midfield terminal complex will be capable of handling 20 million passengers a year initially and then later, as Abu Dhabi develops as a major Middle East transport hub, up to 50 million passengers a year – this will provide major competition to Dubai International airport.

The project will provide the home base for the United Arab Emirates national carrier Etihad Airways.

The cables were manufactured at Nexans' plant in Lyon.

Besides airfield lighting cables supplied for the Abu Dhabi International airport, Nexans has designed an extensive range of cables, cabling systems and accessories for the challenging airport market.

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3



4



5

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2

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cellphone: 0086-13905264693

website: www.jsjintai.cn



6

Prospect of doubled fastener prices – delegates warned

The editor of Fastener & Fixing magazine, Phil Matten delivered a hard-hitting analysis of the factors propelling the cost of all types of steel fasteners along the steepest inflationary track witnessed in decades.

Matten told a packed forum at June's Fastener Fair in Coventry, UK that he could see costs across the range of standard steel fasteners being 40% to 60% higher than 2007 levels within a matter of months.

With cold heading wire prices in Europe set to increase dramatically within weeks (one forum participant confirmed that €250 per tonne would be added to his production costs in July) and Asian raw material costs continuing to ramp up, Matten saw little sign of inflationary pressures abating.

The main contributors were steeply increasing steel prices, driven by extraordinary increases in raw material costs across the world, for example:

- Iron ore contract prices have increased year on year by at least 65%
- The cost of coke, an essential ingredient in steel making, has increased by as much as 200% compared to 2007

Matten went on to detail the impact of bulk sea freight, currency exchange trends, as well as energy and labour costs on the prices of finished fastener products from Asian and European sources.

While current circumstances were exceptional and some level of correction was inevitable, if very difficult to predict, Matten argued that a long term inflationary trend for fastener products appeared an unavoidable reality, leaving the supply industry and its customers no choice but to come to terms with it.

Consolidation meant a more structured steel market, more specialisation, a tighter balance between supply and demand and more robust market pricing, he said. "A small number of powerful mining companies, together with the major steel players have savoured strong profits over recent years, and are intent on holding on to them."



▲ Phil Matten delivering his message to the Fastener Fair, Coventry UK

The prospect that the European Commission may, within a matter of weeks, apply antidumping tariffs on an extensive range of fasteners from China, threatened to further exacerbate the situation, the forum audience was told.

A protracted EU investigation, which started in November 2007, meant growing uncertainty for fastener importers as the 9th August deadline for a decision on preliminary antidumping tariffs drew nearer.

Depending on the investigators' interpretation of one of the most complex antidumping cases addressed by the EU, the application of tariffs could, quite feasibly said Matten, mean fastener prices doubling year on year.

One forum attendee responded: "All we have to do now is get our customers to recognise that fastener companies like mine are on the receiving end of pressures that are outside of our control."

The next Fastener Fair Coventry is scheduled for June 2010.

Fastener Fairs Group – UK
Fax: +44 1727 831 033
Email: jerry@fastfair.net
Website: www.fastfair.net

 An advertisement for QUNYE REELS, an ISO9001 Certified Company. The ad features a grid of images showing various types of reels in different colors (blue, red, yellow, orange). Below the grid, the company's address, contact information, and website are listed.

Address: Fangxiang, Yangzhou City, Jiangsu Province, P.R. China
 Tel: 0086-514-87381188 Fax: 0086-514-87383456
 Web: <http://www.qunye.com.cn>
 E-mail: qunye@qunye.com.cn

 An advertisement for LOCTON, featuring three images of different types of fasteners (locking bolts) against a dark background. Below the images, the company's name and product types are listed, along with contact information and website.

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e-mail : info@condat.fr - Internet : www.condat.fr

Stanelco plc strengthens Radio Frequency Applications team

Stanelco plc, the UK technology company, has appointed Neil Martin as general manager of its Radio Frequency (RF) Applications business.

Neil has over twenty years of experience within the high technology sector. He joins from e2v technologies where he was sales and marketing director.

During his career Neil has worked in a variety of commercial and industrial markets in engineering, project management and senior commercial leadership roles for organisations including GEC-Marconi.

Neil also has considerable experience of the Asian market, having previously set up sales and support operations in China.

Stanelco's RF Applications business provides sealing, welding and heating

equipment to a wide variety of industries, from medical applications through to optical fibre production.

Paul Mines, chief executive of Stanelco plc said: "Neil's appointment strengthens the focus on exploiting Stanelco's strong global capability and brand in the RF markets.

"We are delighted that someone of Neil's calibre is joining the team, and in particular his Asian experience will be significant in supporting the Company's growth plans in this area."

David Battye, former general manager of RF Applications, now assumes a business development role for the Group.

Stanelco plc – UK
Fax: +44 2380 867070
Website: www.stanelco.co.uk

Infrastructure cables to Qatar

Nexans has been awarded an order, worth €80 million, for a power transmission system project by the Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation (KAHRAMAA).

The contract, for a global project amount of €168 million, has been signed by a consortium led by Prysmian.

Both groups will supply engineering, production, installation and commissioning services for 161km of high voltage and extra high voltage underground power cables (132kV and 220kV).

The installation will commence during 2008, with a scheduled completion date in January 2010.

Nexans – France
Fax: +33 15669 8484
Email: nexans.web@nexans.com
Website: www.nexans.com

MBO at Fibre Technologies

Former sales director of Fibre Technologies Ltd, Ian Hunt, has completed a management buyout (MBO) of the fibre optics communications specialist, assuming the role of managing director with plans to grow revenues to £12m by 2012.

Hunt acquired 24.9% of the company in late 2005 and has spent the past two and a half years growing the new business pipeline, as well as founding and strengthening partner relationships. To meet the £12m turnover target, Hunt plans to double the workforce over the next four years, which will include the development of a specialist sales team focusing on high volume, low touch consumable sales.

Hunt commented: "Over the eight years I have worked at Fibre Technologies, I have seen the company become a leading player in the communications market with a strong customer and partner base. The MBO is a sign of my commitment to the company."

Fibre Technologies Ltd – UK
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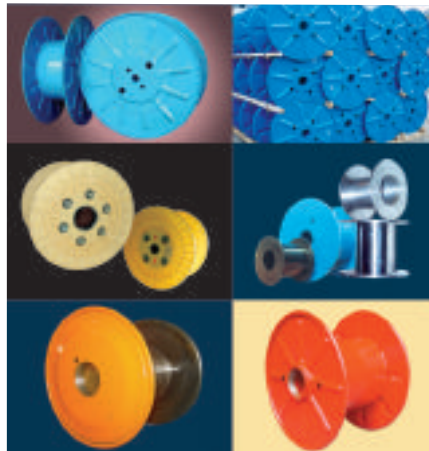
All types of reels from Qunye

Qunye Electrical Machinery Factory is mainly devoted to the design and manufacturing of all kinds of reels.

Comprising two factories with a combined area of about 40,000m², Qunye's modern manufacturing facilities produce standard products as well as any custom-designed type.

Qunye passed ISO9001:2000 Quality System Certification in 2003, and products are sold across the world including Germany, Japan, USA and Asia.

Major products include double layer high-speed reels, plated high-speed reels, punching-type reels, I-shaped, corrugated and delivery reels.



▲ A selection from Qunye's reels range

Qunye Electrical Machinery – China
Fax: +86 514 8738 3456

Email: qunye@qunye.com.cn
Website: www.qunye.com.cn

Sikora news – delivered to your inbox

Since the beginning of 2008, Sikora has continually updated information and news about products and services on its relaunched website. The company is now offering an RSS feed from the news section of its website, containing headlines and the full news stories that are available on www.sikora.net.

Readers can subscribe to the feed via the integrated browser functionality or an external reader program. It is available in English and German.

Sikora AG – Germany
Fax: +49 421 48900 90
Email: sales@sikora.net
Website: www.sikora.net



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Pourtier-Gauder holds open house

In early June, Pourtier-Gauder Group organised a week of demonstrations in the Roanne (France) workshop, including a line with all COS 1200-2 units synchronised in rotation.

The COS 1200 strander has been developed as a solution for high production volumes of 150mm² up to 400mm² sectoral and round conductors.

Delegates were shown the production of a 7-wire copper strand at 500rpm and also the multi-wire bobbin winding operation from basket.

Visitors were impressed by the technology of the line especially the tension equalisation for each wire for reel filling, done from basket pay-offs.

Over thirty participants attended the event, representing fifteen cable makers from Europe, East Asia and South America.

Pourtier– Gauder Group – France
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Implementing REACH in good time

On June 1st 2008, the European Regulation 2006/1907/CEE, better known under the name REACH (an acronym of the words Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation of Chemicals) officially came into force.

The fundamental REACH concept is the risk evaluation of a substance for the user and the environment regarding its use and the implementation of appropriate means of protection. Chemical industries are affected by this new regulation. As creators of substances and formulators, lubricants producers have to comply with this rule and have to follow its process evolution.

Lubricant manufacturer, Condat has complied with REACH regulations for over two years, after implementing an action plan to meet the requirements and the deadlines of the statutory terms, and has begun the pre-recording of manufactured and/or imported eligible substances. It is the main objective of Condat to take all possible steps to ensure products are in



▲ Condat has implemented the REACH directive for over two years

accordance with the regulation, are user and environment friendly and adhere to the continue to rely on knowledge acquired with the Biocides Directive – Directive 98/8/CE and on its partnerships with customers and suppliers for anticipation of future changes.

Condat AS – France
Email: info@condat.fr

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Venrooy's 37% turnover increase

During the past twelve months, Venrooy Cable Equipment from The Netherlands increased its turnover bookings by 37%.

The success has been driven by the launches of the LTV-R and ZW-R drum carriers, as well as the growing number of (international) clients for its VEN-P/L/S/E winding machines, particularly in the building, electronic and maritime sectors.

Venrooy Cable Equipment BV – The Netherlands
Fax: +31 73 54 78 641
Email: info@venrooy.nl
Website: www.venrooy.nl

Bars and wires from India

Indiasteel Works Ltd, previously known as ISI Bars Ltd, exports stainless steel long products from its completely integrated production facilities in India.

ISI Bars Ltd is well equipped with machinery and facilities including stainless steel melting, billet caster, rolling mill (Pomini rolling mill for wire rods from 5.5mm up to 26mm and round rolling mill from 36mm up to 120mm diameter).

Highly qualified professionals and a skilled work force complement the modern technology.

Indiasteel Works is currently exporting 100% of production of stainless steel bright bars and wires and planning to increase its market share of exports from India.

Indiasteel Works Ltd – India
Email: export@indiasteel.in

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Transatlantic Cable

Rehabilitation post-Bush?

▶ Slightly and conditionally, US standing in the eyes of the world is showing signs of improvement

For the first time this decade there are some encouraging signs for America's global image, according to the results of the latest survey by the Pew Global Attitudes Project. The 24-nation survey, conducted 17th March to 21st April, shows that favourable views of the US have increased modestly since 2007 in ten of 21 countries where comparative data are available. And signs are strong that further revival will follow the exit of President George W Bush from the world stage. Even so, five years after the start of the US-led war in Iraq, the survey released 12th June, of more than 24,000 people in 24 countries, indicates that the image of the United States abroad remains far less positive than it was before the war and at the beginning of the century. The Pew Global Attitudes Project is an undertaking of the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan, Washington, DC-based 'fact tank' that provides information on issues, attitudes, and trends shaping America and the world.

▶ Preference for Obama

Here are a few excerpts from the most recent Pew survey:

- ✱ The polling finds many people around the world paying close attention to the US presidential election [set for 4th November]. Except in countries that are extremely anti-American, those paying attention generally believe the next president may well change US foreign policy for the better. In nearly every country surveyed, greater numbers express confidence in presidential candidate Barack Obama than in his rival John McCain.
- ✱ The Global Attitudes survey finds growing symmetry in the way that the United States and China are viewed by people all around the world. Both countries are widely seen as taking a unilateralist approach in their relations with other nations, and both are seen as having considerable influence on other countries. As global warming gains in importance to the citizens of the world, both the US and China are criticised for the way they deal with environmental problems.
- ✱ Large majorities in countries ranging from economically advanced to developing (such as Egypt and Indonesia) say that what happens in the American economy affects economic conditions in their own countries. With only a few exceptions, the American economy is now seen as having a negative impact on national economies, both large and small, in all parts of the world.
- ✱ The view that the American economy is hurting their national economies is most prevalent among the publics of Western Europe. About seven in ten people in Great Britain, Germany, and France say that the US economy is having a negative impact on economic conditions in their countries. India and Nigeria are the only nations surveyed where more than a third of respondents express a positive view of America's economic influence.
- ✱ Overall, opinions of the United States are most positive in South Korea, Poland, India, and in the three African countries surveyed

this year – Tanzania, Nigeria, and South Africa. However, positive opinions of the United States have declined in neighbouring Mexico (by nine points) and by 11 points in Japan – a traditional US ally. The image of the United States also remains overwhelmingly negative in most of the predominantly Muslim countries surveyed, though no more so than in recent years.

Labour

▶ Steelworkers of the US and their British and Irish counterparts are set to form a new, huge union

The United Steelworkers (USW), America's largest private-sector union, and Unite the Union, the largest labour organisation in the United Kingdom and Ireland, have signed an agreement clearing the way for the creation of the world's first global union. Under the name Workers Uniting, the new union will have 2.85 million members, not only in the steel industry but also in paper, oil, health care, and transportation. Under the terms of the agreement, the USW and Unite the Union will retain their identities even as they work on coordinating their efforts and organisations. Each union will retain its own president for the time being, but the new entity will have a joint steering committee and an executive director to coordinate transatlantic activities.

The United Steelworkers was frequently embattled over the course of its history since 1942, and its current president worked a challenging note into the merger announcement. Leo W Gerard, who leads 850,000 USW workers in the US and Canada, said of the new behemoth: "This union is crucial for challenging the growing power of global capital." Derek Simpson, general secretary of Unite, the Union's Amicus division, was similarly forceful on 2nd July in Las Vegas, where the merger was announced. He told a steelworkers' convention, "Our mission is to advance the interests of millions of workers throughout the world who are being shamefully exploited." The new union has set out an ambitious programme for itself. It plans to set up operations in Colombia to help protect union members from violence, in Liberia to aid rubber workers, and in India to help impoverished shipbuilding workers. All this will be in addition to saving manufacturing jobs in the US, Canada, Britain, and Ireland, and joint collective bargaining with employers in the paper, chemical, and titanium industries. Workers Uniting will moreover actively seek to expand its sphere of influence. Its founding constitution calls on its members to "build global union activism, recognising that uniting as workers across international boundaries is the only way to challenge the injustices of globalisation."

Manufacturing

▶ Both the US and Canada show gains in the sector, but to limited effect

Manufacturing in the US grew in June for the first time in six months, according to a closely watched survey by the Institute for Supply Management. The group's manufacturing index rose



to 50.2 for the month after a 49.6 reading in May. A reading over 50 indicates growth. Coming in stronger than expected, the bellwether manufacturing report published 1st July also showed exports remained strong, helping offset the effect of dwindling domestic demand. Home-market orders dropped slightly, and an inflation gauge edged upward. In a separate report on 1st July, the latest figures issued by the government indicated that spending on construction projects declined for a second month. The US Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce estimated construction spending during May at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,085.2 billion, 0.4% below the revised April estimate of \$1,089.3 billion. The May figure is 6% below the May 2007 estimate of \$1,154.6 billion. During the first five months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$416.6 billion, 5.1% below the \$438.7 billion for the same period in 2007.

✧ Canada, too, is seeing a rebound in the manufacturing sector, which helped the national economy grow by a stronger-than-expected 0.4% in April after two months of contraction. A 1st July report by Statistics Canada showed manufacturing expanded 1.9% in the month, although not enough to recover the 2.4% decline in March. The strength in manufacturing was widespread, but motor vehicle production was the big contributor with a 7% rise compared with a 12.8% drop in March. Even so, economists see growth in the sector remaining weak for the rest of the year. Growth in Canadian gross domestic product in April beat market expectations of a 0.3% climb after declines in March and February of 0.2% and 0.3%, respectively. The economy shrank in the first quarter for the first time since the second quarter of 2003, by an annualised 0.3%.

Of related interest . . .

✧ The United States has filed a complaint with the World Trade Organisation over European tariffs on technology goods of American manufacture. The duties, which run as high as 14%, make such goods less competitive in Europe, according to the Information Technology Industry Council, a US trade association. The complaint reflects the Bush administration's view that the European duties violate a 1996 WTO agreement that eliminated tariffs on information technology equipment, and that they effectively tax innovation.

The European Commission said in a statement that it was willing to renegotiate the 1996 Information Technology Agreement to cover new products, but that the US had refused to do so. The commission said, "Both the spirit and explicit provisions in the ITA make it clear that extension to new products to reflect technological change would not be automatic, but based on periodic review by signatories." The WTO received the complaint 29th May, beginning a 60-day consultation period with the European Union. After that, the United States may ask a WTO panel to rule on the dispute. Total worldwide exports of the products included in the complaint totalled \$70 billion in 2007.

Steel

Two for Nucor: joint ventures with Sidenor, of Greece, and Italy's Duferco

Nucor Corp (Charlotte, North Carolina) announced it has signed a memorandum of understanding with Sidenor SA to purchase a 34%

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share of a new joint venture for the production and distribution of long steel products and plate in the Balkans, Turkey, Cyprus, and North Africa. Sidenor is the largest producer of steel in Greece, with additional steelmaking, rolling, and reinforcing mesh operations in Bulgaria and the former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia. Sidenor's total steel production in 2007 was nearly 2 million tons. It recently started up a new rolling mill at its Stomana Industry plant in Bulgaria, which will bring the company's total steel rolling capacity to more than 3.6 million metric tons per year by 2009.

Nucor also announced that will pay approximately \$658 million for a 50% equity stake in Duferdofin-Nucor Srl, a new joint venture being created with Duferco SA for the production of beams in Italy and their distribution in Europe and North Africa. The joint venture will include the Duferco Group's Italian long product production assets and associated distribution companies. The new affiliation will very likely make Duferdofin-Nucor the leader in beam production in Italy and Southern Europe. Production of beams and other long products from Duferdofin-Nucor's plants in San Zeno, Pallanzeno, and Giamorro (all in Italy) exceeded 900,000 metric tons in 2007. A new merchant bar mill is under construction in Giamorro and is expected to be operational in late 2008. Additional investments in the Italian operations are under review by the two companies. Nucor is itself the largest producer of beams in North America, with total production in 2007 of some 3 million tons.

Elsewhere in steel . . .

✱ US Steel Corp (Pittsburgh) and SunCoke Energy Inc (Haverhill, Ohio) have broken ground on a \$570 million project at the steel company's Granite City Works in Granite City, Illinois. SunCoke Energy subsidiary Gateway Energy and Coke Co will construct, own and operate heat recovery coke ovens with an annual coke-making capability of 650,000 tons produced with SunCoke Energy's low-emissions technology. As reported in St Louis Business Journal, the project, announced in 2006, includes the construction of a cogeneration plant that will provide electricity to the Granite City Works. The cogeneration facility will be owned and operated by US Steel, which will provide \$280 million of the joint capital investment programme. Construction was expected to take 18 months.

In brief . . .

✱ First Quantum Minerals, a Canadian miner of copper in Zambia and Congo, has agreed to buy Scandinavian Minerals to gain a nickel mine in Finland. The purchase price of about \$280 million values Scandinavian Minerals at a 41% premium to its closing price. The transaction will give Vancouver-based First Quantum full control of the Kevitsa property in northern Finland, which has indicated and inferred resources that Scandinavian Minerals places as high as 831 million metric tons of nickel ore.

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※ Iberdrola SA, of Spain, one of the world's largest energy companies, has said it would invest \$2 billion to build hundreds of wind turbines in upstate New York if its bid to purchase the regional power company Energy East (Gloucester, Maine) is approved by New York regulators. The new turbines would more than double state energy production from wind and make New York one of the larger producers of wind power in the US. Iberdrola is one of several foreign-owned energy companies active in the American market, where rising fuel prices and state legislation requiring more energy from renewable sources have made wind, solar, and hydroelectric power increasingly attractive.

Automotive

As Volvo moves to slash its US costs, Ford denies it wants to divest the Swedish brand

After posting a \$151 million first-quarter loss due to declining US sales, Volvo, the Swedish auto maker, said it would lay off 1,200 workers in its home country. As reported by Byron Pope on WardsAuto.com (25th June), announcement of the "unfortunate but necessary action"

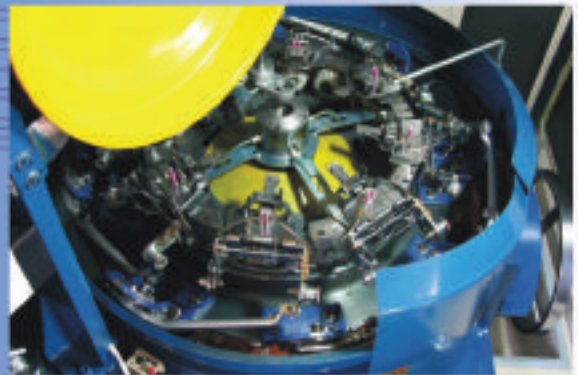
came amid reports that Ford Motor Co, of the US, is actively shopping its Volvo Cars division. Volvo spokeswoman Maria Bohlin told Ward's that weak North American sales are causing a drain on the company, having declined roughly 10% each year for the last three years. She said that other factors in the cost-cutting decision include the weak US dollar, increases in raw materials prices, and a falling European market. Ward's data show that, through May, Volvo's North American sales for 2008 were down 22.0% - to 8,277 units.

According to Mr Pope, the Volvo news followed European media reports that Ford is shopping the Swedish brand to raise cash to aid in its own North American turnaround initiative. He cited the online edition of Dagens Industri as saying Ford had contacted an unnamed Chinese company to gauge its interest in Volvo. A Russian investor also is believed to be interested in acquiring the auto maker, the Swedish newspaper said.

Mr Pope wrote, "Although rumours that Volvo is in play have circulated since Ford announced last year it was selling its Jaguar Cars and Land Rover divisions, the US auto maker repeatedly has denied it intends to sell the brand. Ford officials have maintained the plan is to position [Volvo] as a major player in the global luxury arena." Ford spokesman John Gardiner denied that the brand is on the block. "As we said earlier this year, Volvo is not for sale," he told Ward's.

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"We are focused on improving Volvo's business results." In an interview with Ward's in April, Ford President and CEO Alan Mulally did indeed assert that the "main strategy on Volvo is to improve and fix the business." However, as Mr Pope noted in June, much had changed in recent weeks, including the emergence of billionaire Kirk Kerkorian as a major investor in Ford. "Mr Kerkorian, who holds a 6.49% stake in the auto maker, has said he may offer business suggestions from time to time," observed Mr Pope. "His top lieutenant . . . has publicly stated Ford should divest itself of its Volvo subsidiary."

Other automotive news . . .

Chrysler, the third-largest US-based auto maker, said on 13th June that it would raise prices an average of 2% on all 2008 model-year cars and trucks because of rising costs for steel and other commodities. Chrysler, whose sales fell 19% in the first five months of this year, said the increase will bring its prices in line with those of its competitors General Motors and Ford. In December, GM raised its per-vehicle prices as much as \$1,500, citing higher commodity expenses; and, on 22nd May, Ford's chief executive Alan Mulally said that commodity costs were among the reasons his company was forced to abandon a 2009 profit goal. Chrysler spokesman Stuart Schorr said, of his company's price increases, "Today's economic conditions and forecasts indicate unrelenting pressure as to commodity prices, specifically steel, which have forced our hand." (Bloomberg News)

Aviation

* The European Union on 26th June announced a landmark agreement that would cap emissions from aircraft. Beginning in 2012, all airlines operating flights into or out of airports in the EU would be required to buy pollution credits: the emissions-trading technique that treats pollutants like commodities on the open market. Europe's inclusion of aviation in the system previously confined to heavy industry raises the pitch in an increasingly contentious transatlantic confrontation over global regulation of greenhouse gases.

The immediate response of US officials to the new requirements was to question their legality under the convention governing international civil aviation. In Brussels, a spokesman at the United States Mission to the European Union said, "The mandatory application of the European Emissions Trading System to US airlines and airlines of other non-European countries is, we think, both contrary to international law and ultimately unworkable."

* "The US [airline] industry is facing its biggest challenge since the inception of commercial air travel," analyst Mark J Schulte told a 25th June luncheon meeting of the International Aviation Club, in Washington, DC.

Citing the \$61 billion that US air carriers are projected to pay for jet fuel this year – up \$20 billion from a year earlier, and double what they paid in 2004 – he said that options open to cash-strapped executives included selling off assets, taking on more debt, and selling ownership stakes to foreign rivals.

* American Airlines, the largest US carrier, is hoping that a deep round of service cuts will see it through the emergency. On 25th June, American announced that it was shrinking the number of its flights from New York's LaGuardia airport and eliminating service to four smaller US cities: Albany, New York; Providence, Rhode Island; Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and San Luis Obispo, California.

The cuts, which go into effect in October, follow an announcement in May that the airline would slash its US flying capacity by as much as 12%. In November, American will cease flying from LaGuardia to Reagan National Airport, in the Washington area.

* Emirates, the largest airline in the Middle East, said in June that it would start daily nonstop service between Dubai and Los Angeles on 1st September; and, on 26th October, between Dubai and San Francisco. The airline already offered daily non-stop service from Houston, Texas, to Dubai.

The largest customer of the Airbus A380, Emirates had previously announced the launch on 1st August of the first service to the United States with the new European-built superjumbo jetliner: nonstop flights between Dubai and New York's John F Kennedy International Airport.

Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al-Maktoum, the chairman and chief executive, said on 9th June that the US represents a key focus area in Emirates' route development plans.

Dorothy Fabian
USA Editor

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Zwick's latest tester can be spring loaded

Precision springs are used in electro-mechanical assemblies for the automotive, defence and aerospace industries, as well as sports and leisure activities.

Depending on the application, random samples are tested after manufacture or, in some cases, 100 per cent testing is necessary.

At wire 2008 Zwick exhibited a compression-spring tester for highly accurate measurement of precision springs from 1 to 2500 N. It has extremely good overall measurement technology characteristics, surpassing even the requirements of standard EN 7500.

The compression-spring tester is used with the zwicki single-column materials-testing machine in conjunction with testControl electronics.

The device possesses extreme vertical and lateral stiffness and comes already equipped with a precision load-cell.

Overload protection prevents damage to the load cell in the event of block force being reached.

Precision guides allow only vertical movement of the compression platens. The extremely stiff and patented load cell is insensitive to transverse forces and ensures that measuring errors due to elasticity under load or eccentric forces are reduced to a minimum.

The instrument is designed for indirect spring length measurement, and this offers a very high level of accuracy as the already minimal axial deformation can be electronically compensated in real time.

Direct measurement is available as an option and is recommended for high-precision testing of small springs.

The instrument can be fitted with a CE conformable safety protection, and an anti-buckling guide spigot, matched to the spring geometry, can also be used.

Special or tension springs can be tested using appropriate tooling and fixtures; the Zwick compression platens can be exchanged for suitable grips.



▲ Zwick compression spring testing machine

Special testXpert® programs have been developed to suit both production control or final inspection, as well as research and development, so making the testing machine more universal.

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software adaptation. With a master testing program cyclical testing is also possible. Zwick programs are developed for integration into the IT infrastructure.

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Installation made easy

Dart Systems Ltd has launched the PipeDart duct rod, a new range of cable installation rods and accessories that are designed to combine ease of operation with reliable performance.

The new system features high-quality, fibreglass rods sheathed with polypropylene for durability and wear resistance, specifically constructed to provide exceptionally high tensile strength while retaining flexibility.

The PipeDart fibreglass rod has a high resin content that ensures greater rigidity and strength, enabling it to endure the additional force required for long duct runs with multiple bends and sweeps.

The PipeDart frames are lightweight, for easy handling in the field. They feature a rugged steel construction with a tough zinc plated finish to aid corrosion resistance.

Diameters range from 4.5mm to 11mm, with lengths from 30m to 300m.

All systems are supplied with brass end fittings and aluminium guide tips but can be fitted with Sonde fittings or adaptors on request.

9mm and 11mm systems are supplied with wheels as standard to aid portability.

The systems are repairable and serviceable, with a range of accessories from replacement tips and splices to frames, cages and rods ensuring that each system can be kept in service, with the benefits of reduced costs of ownership that this brings.

The PipeDart rodding system gives a compact and labour saving approach to cable installation whether the user is installing cables in ducts, threading draw ropes through pipes or using with a Sonde transmitter for locating pipes and blockages.

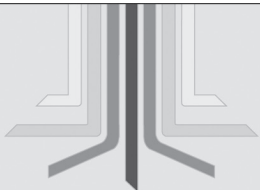
Dart Systems Ltd – UK
Email: stuart.arkell@dartsystems.co.uk
Website: www.dartsystems.co.uk

Goodfellow EFSOP® system

RIVA Acciaio SpA has ordered a Goodfellow EFSOP® process optimisation system for its EAF furnace operations at RIVA Alpa, France. Increased optimisation, based on decreased electrical, charge carbon, oxygen and methane consumption and increased productivity is expected as a result. Tenova Goodfellow will also supply its water detection system for safety within the furnace environment.

The EFSOP® system is part of an extensive modernisation of the meltshop automation and process control. New automation and process control of the 90 ton EAF will be undertaken by Tenova, as well as modernisation of the process control for the chemical package for the EAF.

Tenova Goodfellow Inc – Canada
Fax: +1 905 567 3899
Email: goodfellow@ca.tenovagroup.com
Website: www.tenovagroup.com

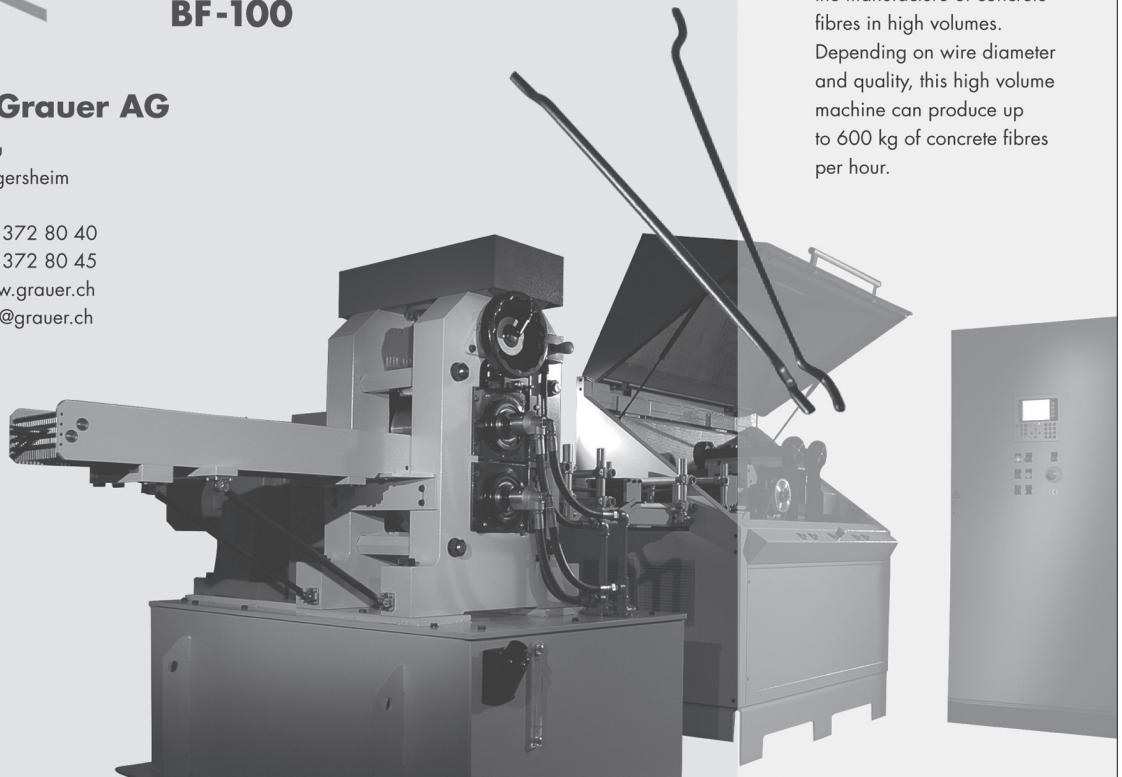


Concrete Fibres Machine BF-100

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The concrete fibres machine BF-100 is designed for the manufacture of concrete fibres in high volumes. Depending on wire diameter and quality, this high volume machine can produce up to 600 kg of concrete fibres per hour.

Four D-VAR® orders for wind farms on three continents

American Superconductor Corporation (AMSC) has received orders for its D-VAR® solution for grid interconnection of wind farms located in Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom.

The wind farms will utilise wind power systems from three different global wind turbine manufacturers.

The D-VAR systems, which will provide voltage support for more than 200 megawatts (MW) of aggregated power, will be delivered to all four wind farms within the next 12 months. AMSC now has an installed base and orders for solutions to serve approximately 7,350 MW of wind power worldwide, an increase of more than 120% over the past year.

AMSC's proprietary D-VAR systems enable wind farm developers to meet the national and provincial requirements adopted in many countries for connecting wind farms to power grids. AMSC customers utilise D-VAR grid interconnection solutions to provide voltage regulation and power factor correction, along with post-contingency assistance to prevent voltage collapse on the power grid.

"Our D-VAR solutions are being used around the world to safely connect wind farms to electric power grids," said Chuck Stankiewicz, executive vice president and general manager of AMSC Power Systems. "These solutions mitigate voltage instabilities at wind farms to enable wind farm owners and operators

to meet dramatically varying grid interconnection requirements around the world. This ensures the quality of the power being delivered to customers and in many cases improves the reliability of the local power grid."

Worldwide wind power capacity increased 27% in 2007 to more than 94 gigawatts (GW), according to a Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) report issued in April 2008. The global wind energy market, according to the report, is expected to grow an additional 155% to 240 GW of total installed capacity by 2012.

AMSC – USA
Fax: +1 978 842 3364
Website: www.amsc.com

Multiwire stranding – without a break

Exhibited for the first time at wire 2008, COS 1200-37 the multi-wire concentric stranding line for screening of power cable, from Pourtier – Gauder Group.

The machine has been designed to produce high quality round or sectoral compacted strands of 7, 19, 37 or 61 copper (1.5–3mm diameter) or aluminium (2 – 3.5mm diameter) wires.

The concentric construction and multi-wire process permit speeds up to 500rpm (compared to 200rpm with a traditional rigid stranding line) while keeping a short line length. Moreover, each bobbin is equipped with an individual driven tension control for the prevention of wire breakage, optimisation of the final section and, therefore, resistance of the cable.

A 37-wire line is composed of 6 independent modules of two reels of three wires each, individually motorised by AC motors. Filling of the reels is made from basket pay-offs with an individual capstan to pull the cable and to equalise the tension of each wire, reaching the best winding quality.

Higher speed, smaller space, safer production, this flexible line also allows reduction of copper remainders, all the parameters being adjustable from the Colour Touch Screen Control Panel for a better process control.

Pourtier - Gauder Group – France
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▲ COS 1200-37 multiwire concentric stranding line

Horizontal lead extruder

Since the development of the new automatic and horizontal lead extruder in 2004, followed by the first commercial sale to Ducab in 2006, fourteen of the HFSAB units have been sold worldwide, eight of which have already been delivered and commissioned.

The machine's automatic and accurate operation ensures a high quality, continuous production of cables, for weeks on end if required. The extruder is floor-standing with all components readily available for ease of maintenance and a considerable reduction in installation cost as a minimum of foundation work is required.

At the end of May 2008, HFSAB moved in to new, purpose-built facilities. These facilities include in excess of 2,000m² assembly, warehousing and prototyping areas.

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X-Ray 8000 NXT now available for XL-diameter



▲ Monitor image of X-Ray 8000 NXT

Sikora's X-Ray 8000 for the measurement of wall thickness, eccentricity as well as the diameter and ovality of high-voltage cables has been improved regarding design and technology. The focus of the further development was on profitability and technological progress.

The optimised technology was summarised under the name X-Ray 8000 NXT (NeXT generation) for an optimum quality control at the production of MV-, HV- and EHV-cables in CCV-, VCV- and MDCV-lines.

With the new X-Ray 8000 NXT for XL diameters, Sikora is now presenting a new model of this series, which combines the technological advantages of the X-Ray 8000 NXT with regard to the practical application in the field of EHV-cable (Extra High Voltage cable) production. The "measuring giant" is perfectly suitable for extremely big cable diameters of up to 180mm for CCV-lines and 220mm for VCV-lines. It provides highest measuring accuracy and repeatability while demonstrating the flexibility and safety of an X-Ray 8000 NXT.

As with the X-Ray 8000 NXT, the XL-system requires only one scan to calculate all measuring values. Hence, all requirements for rapid centring of the extrusion tools as well as optimum control of the production line. Multi-sensor semiconductor detectors are incorporated into the high-end variant of the X-Ray 8000 NXT. The multi-sensor-technology assures reliable readings and ensures reliable measuring values – even when the cable is vibrating.

At each scanning process four measuring values are provided, giving a very precise measurement.

An important development is the integration of ceramic windows (patent pending), which separates the scanners from the pressure of the CV-line. This replaces the previously used beryllium windows and prevents contamination in the measuring plane. The surface of the ceramic windows does not react with any by-products and always remains clean without rinsing and mechanical protections.

The product planning of the X-Ray 8000 NXT was specifically adapted to the demands of the modern high-voltage cable production. Today, 500 kV-cables and higher are produced, with greater wall thicknesses and a specific measuring plane. Additionally, the expansion of the hot material results in a bigger hot diameter.

For the measurement of EPR-cables with extremely large diameters Sikora offers a 70-kV-scanner-model, to ensure highest quality at the production.

In practice the X-Ray 8000 NXT offers high efficiency. With regard to eccentricity, the wall thickness is measured and controlled, for highest quality and productivity. Material consumption is reduced, resulting in cost reduction.

Sikora International Corp – USA
Email: sales@sikora-usa.com
Website: www.sikora.net



Fullstage to distribute Taihei wire benders

Distributor of premium CNC tube bending machines made in Japan and Taiwan, Fullstage Technologies, is pleased to announce that it is immediately able to offer CNC wire benders with up to 11 axes.



▲ Wire bending equipment available from Fullstage

Fullstage has won the exclusive rights to distribute equipment manufactured by a market leader in the Japanese wire bending industry – Taihei Osaka.

Founded in 1959, Taihei is renowned for the development and production of high quality machines that are used in a variety of applications. Industries served by Taihei's machines include: automotive, electrical, semiconductor and construction.

Fullstage Technologies will immediately assume sales and service responsibilities for Taihei's equipment in Europe (including former members of the CIS), Turkey, the Middle East and Africa.

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Steel fibre production machine from Eurolls

The machine is designed to provide a continuous production of steel fibre in high volume and, with the appropriate tools, can be preset for the production of any type, shape and dimension of fibre.

A feature of this machine is the introduction of a new concept that combines simplicity of operation with high performance and production.

Technical Specification:

Wire diameters	0.6 – 1.2mm
Wire tolerances	± 0.3mm
Max number of wires	60
Installed power	24 Kw
Working speed	2 m/sec
Production	0.8 – 3.3 t/h



▲ Steel fibre production machine from Eurolls

The machine has a broad tolerance range of the inlet wire material that permits the processing of wire rejected from other processes, into a good quality final steel fibre product with a high market value.

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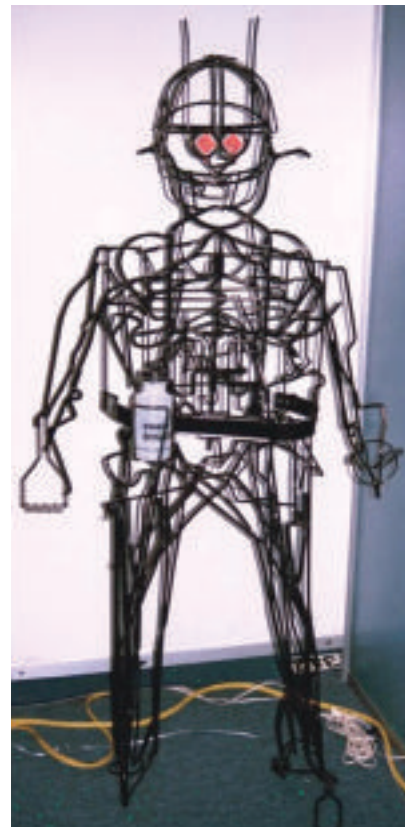
Maximising the possibilities of wire forming

OMCG CNC benders are available to form wire, tube and strip or parts for assembly, in variations to cover low, medium or high volume up to 18,000 per hour.

CNC Feed & Form machines work with Easy Program 3D screen animation, a program that runs at production speed for bend head manipulation in forming.

CNC allows forming with wire from 1mm to 18mm. The bend head allows sharp inside radii smaller than any pin diameter and parts can have a formed eye on both ends. Additional ancillary units allow coining, cold heading, threading and welding.

With the manipulator, assembly is possible and limited only by the imagination of the engineer to create the work cell. It is possible to make two different parts on the CNC and weld them together. With the Easy Program on a desktop computer the program can be prepared, tested and sent to the CNC machine via a company network without interfering with existing production.



▲ Wire bending with CNC – limited only by the imagination of the engineer

OMCG programmable slides allow quick tool change over, some in 10 minutes. Mechanical slides take the longest to change over to a different part but then run at high speed, so making up the lost time and producing considerably more parts at the end of the day.

To compare, CNC Feed & Form can produce 300 parts per hour; using OMCG programmable slides 1,500 parts can be produced per hour while with mechanical slides the rate increases to 3,000 to 10,000 per hour.

For long car seat wires the OMCG Turbo is available, with two, three or four bend forming heads and an articulate manipulator for precise bend angle control.

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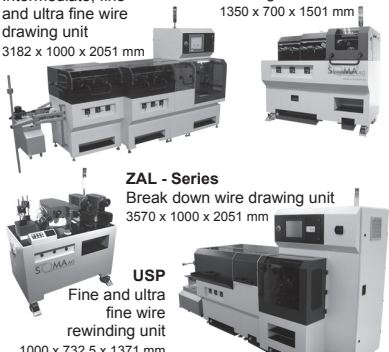
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Er-Bakir modernises Contirod® copper rod plant

Er-Bakir, Elektrolitik Bakir Mamulleri AS in Turkey, has placed an order with SMS Meer for the modernisation of its existing Contirod copper rod plant. The aim of the measure is to increase the output from currently 18t/h to 30t/h of copper wire rod in the future. The modernisation is scheduled for summer 2009.

Additional burners will increase the melting capacity of the shaft furnace, the energy efficiency will be improved by raising the height of the existing shaft furnace and a new higher-performance charging system will be installed to meet

the higher melting capacity. Further activities will include the modification of the Hazelet twin-belt caster for a larger casting cross-section.

At the same time, the fundamental principle of the solidification of the melt in a straight line with the associated benefits for the product quality will be retained.

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Email: info@sms-meer.com
Website: www.sms-meer.com



For accurate unwinding at high speed

By launching the AVS, automatic winding width control, Joachim Uhing KG GmbH & Co offers a system to prevent the formation of dents and bulges in the switchover area during spool winding. This ensures high speed unwinding without jolts during post-processing.

"The formation of dents is particularly critical during winding," explains Burkhard W Bohn, managing director for the technology sector of Joachim Uhing. "Dents bear the risk of slippage, followed by bulging layers being wound on top. During unwinding, this can cause jolts and consequently result in material rupture." AVS detects even the first signs of dents and bulges during winding. The intelligent device memorises the respective position and corrects the error during the next strokes. This results in the spool being completely filled with a continuously cylindrical winding.

Correction occurs before the switchover point by changing the winding width. The stroke increases at this end when a



▲ AVS, automatic winding width control from Joachim Uhing

dent is detected. During the next strokes, more material is fed, and the dent is filled. In case of a bulge, the stroke decreases accordingly, and less material is fed.

"Sensors monitor both values. The AVS interprets an increase of the spool speed at constant material speed as a dent since the winding diameter must be smaller at the deviation point, and interprets a

decreasing spool speed as a bulge." An additional sensor tells the controller on which side the deviation has occurred.

The controller is suited for all winding systems that use electrical pulses to switch over. It can handle cylindrical and bi-conical spools as well as conical winding on cylindrical spool cores.

The AVS is not exclusively designed for Uhing rolling ring drives. It can also be implemented in other winding systems, threaded spindle drives, or an existing winding system can be retrofitted.

Wolfgang Weber, managing director for Uhing Marketing asserts, "An optimum winding result can be achieved without manual intervention even in dirt-laden environments."

Joachim Uhing KG GmbH & Co – Germany

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Where has the heat gone?

Advertorial on behalf of Decalub

The new LVC/PDH rod dry preparation and wire drawing system creates a completely dry substitute to phosphate and borax wet pre-coatings, enabling high-speed direct drawing with greatly reduced wire temperature. But where has the heat gone?

The system permits 'frictionless' drawing with a full lubricant film at the wire-die interface in the most demanding multi-draft applications. It provides a strongly adherent coat for high-tensile wire, and light water soluble coat for plating wire.

The process uses dry coating and lubrication technology enabling an automatically controlled fusion of standard dry lubrication compounds, completely eliminating traditional wet pre-coating chemicals and performing as an adherent and consistent residual coat, automatically adjustable at all speeds.

The system eliminates wet pre-coating chemicals and permits frictionless drawing at 18m/s with H/C spring wire drawn directly from mechanically descaled bare rod. It facilitates die



▲ Rod/wire dry coating by LVC/PDH system, in a 0.88°C application

wear of 0.30-0.50 micron per tonne of wire drawn directly from 0.88°C mechanically descaled bare rod.

The system allows an output of 2.2 tonne per hour with 5.5mm mechanically descaled 0.83-0.88°C bare rod drawn directly without wet pre-coating chemicals.

Decalub – France

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Flexible taping lines

WTM has developed new taping equipment with fully motorised heads suitable for taping and wrapping standard and special wires and cables, even when using the most difficult materials, due to the high sensitivity of the electronic tape tensioning control.

Big traverse wound spools of tape can be used because the motor, even working at 2,500 rpm, drives the weight.

The accuracy of the taping pitch is within hundredths of a millimetre.

The flexibility of these systems allows production to switch from one type of tape to another just by changing the tape itself. Any other setting can be made immediately by selecting the appropriate preset values.

The taping lines are available in both vertical and horizontal configurations to suit the requirements of the individual application.

Every line can be equipped with a tele-assistance module.

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Quality control in high voltage cable production

With its X-RAY 8000 NXT measuring system Sikora provides a tool for quality control, production optimisation and reduced material consumption in power cable production. X-RAY 8000 NXT is the evolutionary successor of the X-RAY 8000 for measurement at CV-lines.

X-RAY 8000 NXT is suitable for permanent quality control at the production of MV-, HV- and EHV-cables in CCV-, VCV- and MDCV-lines.

Sikora is well known in the field of EHV-cable production. Specifically developed for this application area Sikora offers the X-RAY 8000 NXT for the largest cable diameters from 180mm for CCV-lines and 220mm for VCV-lines.

The X-RAY 8000 NXT measures the wall thickness, eccentricity, diameter and ovality with high measuring accuracy and repeatability.



▲ X-RAY 8000 NXT Scanner Box

Multi-sensor semiconductor detectors are incorporated into the high-end variant of the X-RAY 8000 NXT. This multi-sensor technology provides reliable readings, even where the cable may vibrate, and provides four measuring values at each scanning process for precise measurement.

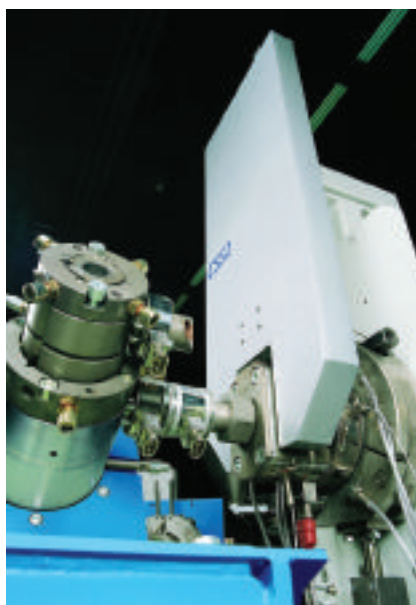
Ceramic windows (patent pending) separate the scanners from the pressure of the CV-line. The surface of the ceramic windows does not react with any by-products resulting from the cross linking process and always remain clean.

Together with reliable measuring systems, the cleanliness of the insulating material is an important requirement for compliance with quality criteria in the production of high voltage cables. Sikora offers an intelligent solution to recognise contamination in the PE-insulation before the cable is produced.

Using the CSS 2 camera system from Sikora the total XLPE-material is examined for purity in the flow channel directly before the crosshead.

The CSS 2 indicates when production can start; it reports contamination and detects combustion particles, including amber and scorches in the material, using a quantitative and graphical display.

Sikora AG – Germany
Fax: +49 421 48900 90
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▲ CSS 2 detects contamination in the PE-insulation

Only one scan is necessary to calculate all measuring values. X-RAY 8000 NXT allows the operator a fast centring of the extrusion tools, as well as optimum control of the production line in automatic mode.



Dätwyler completes unilan® line

Dätwyler Cables now offers Category 5e and 6 U/UTP patch cords with a certified quality for the international UTP markets. With the company's twisted pair Cat. 5e and 6 uninet® UTP installation cables, its Keystone modules KU-T that can be mounted without any special tools, and the corresponding UTP patch panels and faceplates, Dätwyler Cables provides complete tested unilan® UTP cabling systems fulfilling all Class D and E standard requirements together with the unilan® System warranty.

The new unilan® patch cords (AWG 24) have grey FR/PVC sheaths (RAL 7035) and moulded RJ45 plugs with strain relief boots on both ends. They are available from stock in standard length from 1m up to 10m.

The patch cords meet Class D (100MHz) and Class E (250MHz) requirements for Fast/Gigabit Ethernet, ISDN and Power over Ethernet (PoE).

Concerning materials and electrical performance the U/UTP patch cables meet the Category 5e and 6 standards



▲ UTP patch cords from Dätwyler Cables

(IEC 61935-2, TIA/EIA 568-B.2-1). They are flame retardant according to IEC 60 332-1 and RoHS compliant.

"With these patch cords we are closing a gap in our unshielded unilan® product line and, at the same time, reacting to many customer requests in our international markets demanding

complete, tested, good-quality and cost-effective UTP cabling systems," said Markus Grüter from Dätwyler Cables.

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LANmark in copper cabling

Nexans has launched two new concepts in copper cabling technology with its LANmark-6A and -7A products following the recent ratification of international standards for new copper classes Cat 6A and Cat 7A: Cat 6A standard (500MHz) has been developed to support 10 Gigabit applications while Cat 7A standard (1,000MHz) is designed for 40 Gigabit.

Recognising the cost advantages of copper compared to fibre solutions, the market demands a copper solution for applications of up to 100 metres that will be compatible with existing equipment.

The new LANmark-6A range, supported by a newly developed connector, offers up to three connection points within 10 metres. This approach has not been achievable with most 10G compliant copper cabling solutions.

This new flexibility is available for data centres in a lower-cost copper solution that also addresses the space and storage problems presented by over-length cabling. Other benefits for data centres include 360° screening for complete

alien crosstalk immunity. The Nexans LANmark-6A screened solution exceeds all alien crosstalk requirements, providing massive headroom for the user as well as the confidence that the new systems will be compliant.

Field-testing is not required, making further cost savings.

Nexans' 10G cables have a smaller diameter and tighter bend radius than most UTP solutions, making screened 10G systems easier to install than 10G UTP solutions, and more cost effective.

Nexans has developed the LANmark-7A solution to meet the predicted demand for 40 Gigabit from customers and data centres planning to provide "Video on Demand" services.

LANmark-7A offers capacity of up to 50 Gigabit and high frequency support. It also supports RJ45 based legacy equipment (100BaseT, 1GbaseT, 10GBaseT) using the GG45 connector introduced in 2003. With double the bandwidth and half the crosstalk of Cat 6A, LANmark-7A is



▲ Nexans' LANmark 6A connector future proofed for 40 Gigabit applications developed by IEEE802.3, as well as fully backwards compatible.

LANmark-7A is easy to upgrade, migrating to 40G by simply changing patch cords.

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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> WR FT WR FT </div>	<p>Frequent roll changes are required, if the straightening rolls wear quickly or process materials in small batch sizes have to be processed, for which straightening rolls with special groove geometry are essential.</p> <p>In the past it was only possible to change straightening rolls using a tool like a wrench and the whole process demanded a great deal of time and effort. The WR FT roll changing system reduces the time and effort required to replace rolls. By simply pressing on a tactile element integrated into the roll axis it is possible to remove a roll and fit a different one very quickly and without using any tools. The WR FT roll changing system can be retrofitted and is suitable for straightening roll sizes between 22 mm and 110 mm.</p> <p>Call the HOTLINE and visit our WEBSITE for more information about our WR FT quick roll change system!</p>		
WITELS-ALBERT GmbH Malteserstraße 151-159 D-12277 Berlin	HOTLINE / FAX: +49 (0)30 723 988-27 / -88 Marcus Paech WEBSITE: www.witels-albert.com eMail: info@witels-albert.com		



Drum twister from Cortinovis



▲ The new multi product drum twister from Cortinovis

The latest drum twister from Cortinovis can apply in-line all types of taping with paper, plastic, copper, aluminium, bronze or steel tapes.

Bobbin loading and unloading is achieved with lifting platforms, motorised trolleys

and pintles and features full safety devices for bobbins fitting on rotating forks.

Pay-off for wires and insulated cores is from packs, coils and bobbins, with straighteners and tensioners for full control of broken wire.

Control is centralised, including alarms, predictive maintenance and recipes.

The drum twister can handle multiple products, including:

- Laying up of insulated conductors round or sector shaped pre-spiralled for low, medium and high voltage for cables up to diameter 150mm
- Laying up of insulated cores for control and instrumentation cables
- Stranding of sectors for Milliken copper conductors up to 3,000 mmq
- Steel wire armouring for cables up to diameter 120mm and wires up to 4mm
- Copper and aluminium screening for wires from diameters of 0.6 up to 2.5mm and for cables up to 120mm

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- Precision layer rewinding lines for welding wires



BM 800
Double-twist bunching machine



AUTOMAG
Precision layer rewinding line



MT 500
Aluminium wire rod break-down machine



info@sampsistemi.com
www.sampsistemi.com



Cable clamps for system builders

Polyamide cable clamps from M Buttkerit Ltd are designed to hold and support a range of different power cables for various applications.

The clamps are moulded from black polyamide 6GV and are suitable for use inside or outside, even in hostile operating environments. They are also resistant to grease, oil, UV and ozone radiation, and can accommodate cable loads up to 600A and function in temperatures ranging from -40° to +120°C.

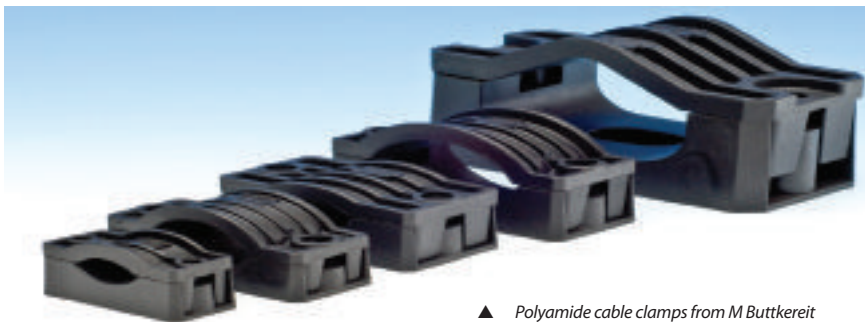
KHF single aperture clamps come in a wide selection of sizes, and are suitable for single insulated cable diameters ranging from 16mm up to 100mm. Clamp footprint is compact, ranging from 66mm x 21mm, up to 182mm x 80mm.

Larger clamps are also available to accept multiple cables. These can be configured in three-cable triangular or four-cable diamond arrangements within a single enclosure aperture. The triangular cable formation emits a magnetic field level of no more than 100 micro Tesla at 20cm radius, and all clamps are rated to a short circuit resistance load of 25kN.

The K series clamp is designed for use with insulated power cables installed in series or multiple cable layers. These can be arranged in a wide combination of configurations, for example, with two blocks to accept 3-4 cables (10-32mm diameter), in flat runs on either horizontal or vertical planes, or with three tiered or layered blocks to accept 6-8 cables.

Polyamide cable clamps can be supplied for cable centre settings of 38, 41, 44 or 65mm, with optional clamp sizes to provide alternative cable row spacing. All clamps come with mounting plates incorporating stainless steel stud bolts, nuts and washers.

M Buttkerit Ltd – UK
Fax: +44 161 969 5419
Email: info@buttkerit.co.uk
Website: www.buttkerit.co.uk



▲ Polyamide cable clamps from M Buttkerit

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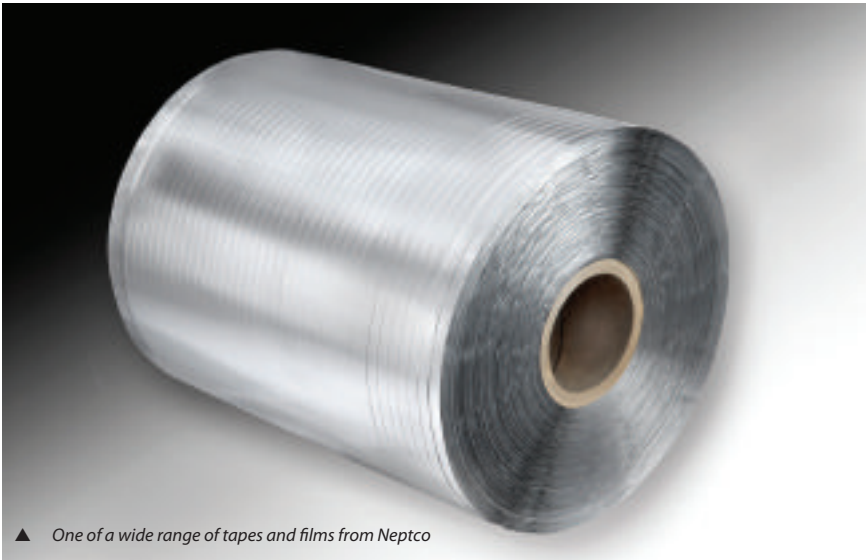


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Tapes, films and laminates from a single source



▲ One of a wide range of tapes and films from Neptco

Neptco manufactures a wide range of flexible and rigid strength elements for fibre optic cables, as well as multi-ply shielding tape laminates;

low-smoke shielding tapes; heat seal and pressure-sensitive coated films and laminates; foil-free edged tapes; screening tapes; separator tapes; barrier/binder

tapes; slit films; and marker identification tapes. New products include water blocking tapes and yarns, and nonwoven, semi-conductive power cable tapes.

Brand names include: Lightline®, Fiberbundle®, Flexline®, SoftStrand®, and InstantDry® strength members, and Firefite®, High-Draw®, AquaBlok®, Slicktape® and Powerline® cable tapes.

Neptco manufactures in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, western North Carolina and Suzhou, China with sales offices located throughout the world.

Neptco also offers contract manufacturing and product design services, with in-house capabilities for coating, laminating, printing, slitting and weaving at its ISO 9001:2000 certified plants.

Neptco – USA

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▲ Rim with 16 wires on the outer ring and eight on the inner rings

Data contains information about RpM, any kind of C-Forces, number of spools, trigger intervals or rope speed. A state-of-the-art breaking system with sensitive action guarantees smooth twisting of wires and results in a strong and durable steel rope.

Installation of the measuring capsule is on the rim itself with no additional wiring. The power supply is said to last for six months.

Rembe - Germany
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Website: www.rembe.de

CNC wire bending

AIM Inc has introduced a new compact 3D CNC wire-bending machine: the robust and efficient AFC series (AccuForm Compact).

With up to 8mm wire capacity, AccuForm Compact comes complete with Industrial PC running Windows XP Pro and SmartEditor®, a 2-plane straightener, maintenance-free servo quad-roller feeder and precision bender axes.

SmartEditor® features a flexible programming language with intuitive commands and simple to use, conversational step-by-step programs. Only length and bend angle are needed to make parts, yet the language will facilitate programming for sophisticated shapes.



▲ AccuForm Compact with full 3D capabilities

The AFT tabletop line of small volume production machines will handle wire of up to 16mm diameter.

AIM will be exhibiting at wire China 2008.

AIM Inc - USA
Email: info@aimmachines.com **Fax:** +1 630 458 0730
Website: www.aimmachines.com



Rolling, straightening and cutting lines

Teurema presents a compact line for cold rolling, straightening and cutting of smooth or ribbed wires, said to operate at three times the speed of a traditional line and offering the possibility of being combined with a spooler to produce coils.

Teurema believes that a relatively small investment in the new LG-EC line can obtain higher productivity by a combination of reduction in manual interventions, less labour and with less space occupied by the line itself.

The wire rod, from the coil positioned on the tilting fingers, will run through the vertical static payoff, the mechanical descaler, the lubricant adding unit and the Eurolls rolling cassettes until it reaches the capstan for the cold rolling deformation.

The motorised rolls, besides supplying the wire back pull on the capstan, push the wire through the straightening rotor. An encoder is used for detecting the cutting length and activating the rotating shear. The cut bars are collected in a rotating channel and discharged on a bar collection bench.



▲ Teurema's LG-EC rolling and straightening line

LG-EC line components

- Tilting fingers
- Vertical static payoff with the possibility of adding a double pulley system in case of high payoff speed
- Compact module housing the mechanical descaler, the lubricant adding unit, the support for cassettes type A or B and the bullblock
- Compact module that houses the motorised rolls, the rotor, the encoder and the shear
- Discharge channel
- Bar collection bench

LG-EC technical data

- Inlet wire rod: 6.5 to 14mm diameter
- Finished product: 6mm to 12mm diameter
- Maximum speed: 6m/s (straightening and cutting), 12m/s winding on spool
- Cutting length: 2.2–14m (variable length), 6–12m (fixed length)
- Rotating straightening system

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The world's wire industry is heading for wire & Tube China 2008

From September 23rd to 26th 2008, the Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC) will play host to the concurrent wire and tube trade shows, wire & Tube China 2008. Organised jointly by Messe Düsseldorf China Ltd and Shanghai Electric Cable Research Institute, this year's show is expected to exceed the visitor and exhibitor numbers of 2006 when 615 exhibitors welcomed more than 30,000 visitors over the four exhibition days.

na 2008

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Cables, compounds & extruding

For every cable a compound? Not quite, but the number and variety of compounds developed for use in cable applications can suggest custom-craftsmanship.

Medium and high voltage cables bound for the power, industrial, mining, distribution and transportation industries incorporate the compounds that uniquely fit them for the work. Control, secondary network and tray cable require compounds for low voltage service. Flame retardant compounds are designed for use in cables for low-smoke, no-halogen and low-toxicity applications. High temperature, appliance, motor lead, automotive: cables able to stand up to the rigours of these specialities are first made robust by their compounds.

Similarly, extruding can seem customised, so focused are the concerns of extrusion process engineering. A trade journal in the rubber field reported that improved screw designs for cable extrusion have typically come from extruder equipment manufacturers or polymer compound suppliers, each with a cultivated interest in, and pronounced preference for, a particular polymer.

The end user is the ultimate beneficiary of all this particularity but first, the wire making professional will benefit from the highly specialised products and services showcased here.

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“Demand for reliable underground power cable systems is growing rapidly in many parts of the world. Drivers for growth include the increased power demand globally, difficulty for utilities to obtain new rights of way for overhead lines, as well as the need to interconnect national/regional power grids for greater supply security,” said Robert Tarimo, market manager for Europe, India, the Middle East and Africa.

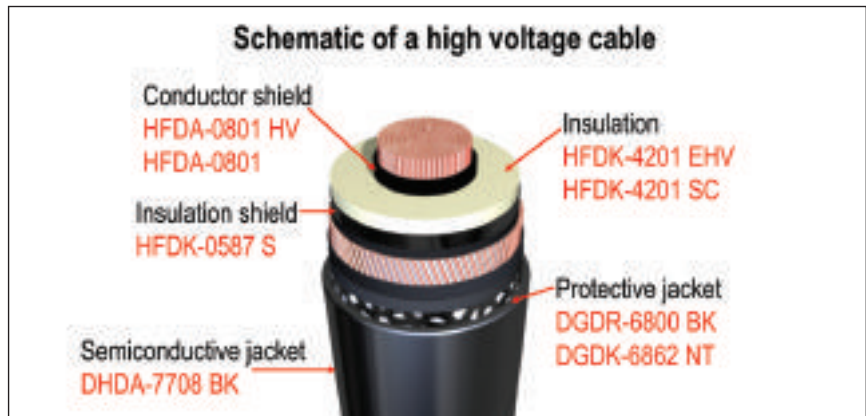
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Crosspolimeri is specialised in producing thermoplastic and cross-linkable compounds with and without flame-retardant and halogen-free properties. The industrial fields of electrical cables, tubes and technical parts for the automotive, aeronautical and railway industries, consumer goods and communication systems offer a multiplicity of applications and are the main market for the Crosspolimeri compounds.



▲ Compound production at Crosspolimeri SpA

Compound production is at Crosspolimeri SpA located in Italy, where several polyvalent production lines have a total capacity of 12,000 tons per year. A sister factory, Crosspolimeri AG, located close to Basel (Switzerland), will be in position to produce 12,000 tons per year from 2009. Crosspolimeri's main competence is in cross-linkable compounds, unfilled and filled (in order to give different characteristics and flame retardant value).

Recently the company has researched new thermoplastic compounds that perform similarly to cross-linkable products. The research was carried out in medium tension and especially in the automotive field. Crosspolimeri is in position to present new compounds for this sector, meeting T2 – T3 – T3S specifications.

Crosspolimeri – Italy

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Fax: +39 052 133 1400

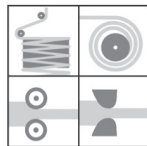
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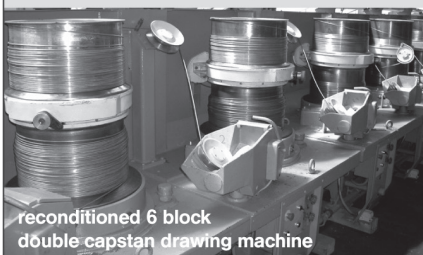
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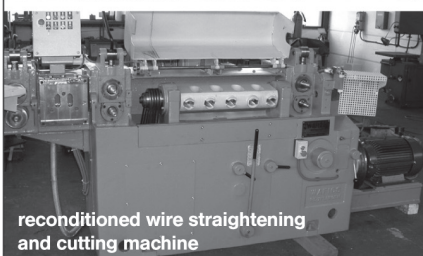
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Vinyl elastomers provide rugged performance under aggressive conditions

The Vinyl Division of Teknor Apex Company has developed new grades of its Flexalloy® vinyl elastomer with improved flame retardance and even better low-temperature properties than established Flexalloy compounds.

The new Flexalloy products are recommended for cabling applications such as alternative energy systems and satellite dishes.

The PVC resin on which all Flexalloy compounds are based consists of ultra high molecular weight (UHMW) PVC rather than the standard PVC polymer in nearly all other vinyl compounds, including those widely used for wire and cable. This high-performance UHMW resin, combined with Teknor Apex's proprietary compounding technology, enables Flexalloy compounds to stay flexible at very high and very low temperatures, withstanding extreme cold, searing heat, and wet environments without cracking, softening, or compromising the integrity of the cable.

Flexalloy products are suited for use in harsh outdoor environments and in challenging applications, such as power cords, that must conform to UL wet-location standards for flammability.

Flexalloy vinyl elastomers also represent an attractive cost-performance alternative to many styrenic and olefinic thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs), providing comparable compression set and other rubber-like properties.

Teknor Apex – USA

Fax: +1 401 729 0166

Email: info@teknorapex.com

Website: www.teknorapex.com

Cable compounds from Mixer

Mixer began manufacturing cable compounds in 1996, to meet the specific demands of the wire and cable industry.

The company now produces insulation, sheathing, filling and masterbatch cable compounds with both rubber and thermoplastic. The trademark EKOPREN® products are based on halogen free polymers and additives with low toxicity and clear smoke emission. The Mixer range includes heavy metal free, high LOI and fire/oil/ozone resistant compounds.



▲ A selection of cable compounds from Mixer SpA

Fully automated production lines and advanced testing facilities maintain consistent quality of an annual production of 20,000 metric tons of cable compounds. Banbury internal mixers and strainer extruders are used to manufacture compounds in granule (pellet) form.

Mixer offers technical and engineering services to assist cable manufacturers to adapt their equipment to extrude compounds in pellet form. Mixer's on-site

laboratory is at customers' disposal for testing material properties and behaviours. Clients can request tests of their products in order to verify the correct cross-linking of materials, the correct extrusion behaviour and if product complies with standards.

Engineering assistance is available to maximise the results of extruder machinery. Mixer expertise includes designing and constructing modifications to existing equipment as well as optimising operational parameters during extrusion.

Mixer SpA – Italy
Email: staff@mixer.ws

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Air wipes for extrusion applications

Keir Frontiersman air wipes are designed to increase throughput and reduce scrap by improving line speed, conserving energy, saving money and reducing the number of air wipes used while extending their life.

Keir's patented air wipes are engineered to adapt to varying extrusion environments.

Custom crafted to the customer's specified product sizes, from 0.004"-4.5" round or special profiles, Keir air wipes use tough polymer housings encompassing high-density, wear-resistant ceramic inserts that emit a focused high-speed air flow.

Keir Frontiersman air wipes will continue to be refined from the recommendations of process engineers.

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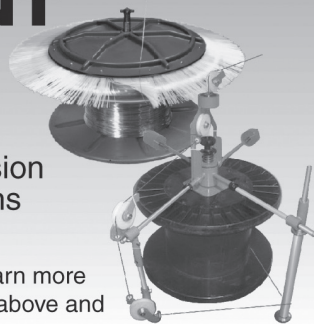
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Elastomers improve flexibility and ease processing of wire and cable compounds

ExxonMobil Chemical presented a broad portfolio of speciality elastomers for wire and cable applications at Chinaplas 2008. Vistalon™ EPDM (ethylene propylene diene monomer) rubber, Exact™ plastomers and Santoprene™ thermoplastic vulcanizates (TPVs) are said to improve flexibility in polyolefin-based compositions. In addition, these speciality elastomers are cost competitive and all are available in pellet form for easier processing. They are all compliant with the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) directives, and many grades are Underwriters Laboratories (UL) approved. Metallocene-based Vistalon EPDM rubber provides added flexibility and improved processability in medium- and low-voltage compounds with the inherent metallocene property of cleanliness.

ExxonMobil Chemical recently introduced Vistalon™ EPM (ethylene propylene monomer) rubber 722, which can improve processing costs and cable flexibility in medium- and low-voltage wire and cable applications. Compared to conventional EPDM, this

metallocene-based product can provide processing improvements while exhibiting similar performance. It offers improved flexibility at low temperatures compared with cross-linked polyethylene (PE). Cables with Vistalon 722 EPM rubber have passed long-term electrical tests (AEIC).



▲ Speciality elastomer from ExxonMobil

With many consumer electronics manufacturers now specifying the use of PVC-free and halogen-free cables, ExxonMobil Chemical's Exact plastomers are proving successful as a blend partner for ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) in thermoplastic halogen-free flame retardant (HFFR) formulations.

When used in combination with other polymers, Exact plastomers cost effectively increase flexibility while exhibiting low density, good mechanical properties, high toughness and excellent environmental stress crack resistance. They accept high filler loadings, which is important for HFFR formulations, and process well on thermoplastic extrusion lines. As a result, Exact plastomers are being used in a range of electrical applications including insulation, jacketing, bedding compounds and semi-conductive compounds.

Santoprene TPVs are flexible, ready-to-use compounds for electrical insulation and jacketing applications. The benefits include environmental resistance to ozone, chemicals and UV light; resistance to extreme temperatures (-60°C to +105°C); better low temperature flexibility than thermoplastic polyolefins (TPOs) and PVC; good oil resistance; high dielectric strength and good wet electrical properties.

ExxonMobil Chemical Company – USA
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Leibinger JET3 – next generation inkjet

Leibinger's latest inkjet printer - the Leibinger JET3 - uses continuous inkjet technology for fast, non-contact marking, operating with Windows CE® technology on a 10.4" colour TFT touch display. The operation menu is designed for clarity and simplicity and illustrates the basic functions for production and printing processes. Sub-menus give the option of selective adjustments for the different applications.

JET3 has a font and graphics editor that allows the operator to establish special characters, complete fonts or establish and modify complex logos, patterns or scripts. Instant availability is guaranteed by the automatic Leibinger nozzle seal, which closes the nozzle and return-line airtight after shutdown. No drying or clogging can occur due to the closed ink circuit, even after long-term shutdowns. State-of-the-art technology in hydraulics, electronics and print head design guarantee minimum use of ink, solvent and energy as well as minimum maintenance requirements. For the use of pigmented inks the ink tanks of the Leibinger JET3 were redesigned in a new shape allowing for a better efficiency of the stirring device. The JET3 can be integrated into existing machines and the round and sturdy print head can be installed in either direction. Due to the print height given by the 32 drops, graphics and barcodes can be printed in high resolution and fonts in up to 5 lines.

Several interfaces are available for optimal connection in each production environment. The stainless steel cabinet offers IP 54 protection for rough environments, while JET3pro offers protection class IP 65.



▲ Leibinger JET3

Paul Leibinger GmbH & Co KG – Germany Fax: +49 7461 928 6199
Email: info@leibinger-group.com Website: www.leibinger-numbering.com

Flame retardant, low-smoke compounds

Italian manufacturer, B&B Compounds has produced wire and cables compounds since 1972.

Dedicated to the wire and cables industry, B&B has recently developed a new range of high-flame retardant, low smoke eco-compounds (FREC) that comply with IEC 332.3 category a, b and c, using the most compatible polymers and additives listed in the REACH (Registration Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals) directive.

These PVC compounds are not only lead-free and heavy metal-free, but also antimony-free to meet the stringent smoke density ASTM E622 requirements for very low halogen content (< 12%). The wide range of these compounds, completely interchangeable in terms of process ability with traditional lead compounds, includes UL/CSA/VDE and CEI grades. Today's market is appreciating these compounds for low voltage cables, data transmission and bus cables, robotics, patch cords and welding cables, especially as they combine oil and gasoline resistance with flame retardance. This result is achieved by using the new research and development resources available at ICTP (Istituto Chimica e Tecnologia dei Polimeri of Naples). This helps to meet single customer's specification within a short time, even for innovative formulations.

Today's latest developments are a wide range of thermoplastic elastomers PVC + TPU; (VIPUR) and PVC + NBR (VIGUM); and 100% Polyurethane Polyether compounds (AITANE) together with co-polyester elastomers BILL TREL. B&B Compounds has recently confirmed an agreement with AlphaGary for the exclusive distribution in Italy of Megolon halogen-free, flame retardant compounds, and with Esseti Plast for tailor-made masterbatches for the wire and cable industry.

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Feature

Rod & bar production



The expression raising the bar is more suggestive of athletics than of wire production but the concept is very well understood by wire makers. An abstract of an article on steel wire rod and bar production begins: "Technical themes based upon market needs . . ." It ends with the warning, "Environmentally friendly material excellence will be necessary."

The material in the middle is more typical of technical journals, with its concern for higher strength (at no sacrifice of toughness and workability), precise control of rolling temperatures (for more consistent mechanical and metallurgical properties), and product microstructure (such that subsequent heat treating and double handling may be eliminated).

No doubt abstracts on nickel bar and rod – and copper bar and rod, and titanium bar and rod – are similarly bracketed at both ends by the "soft" 21st century considerations migrating from general discourse into the vocabulary of the laboratory and the factory. Rod and bar must be friendly to the environment. The rolling of rod and bar must be responsive to the needs of the market.

They have raised the bar on us.

The solid professionals whose products and services are reviewed here don't mind. From long experience of meeting their expectations of themselves, they can confidently be expected to meet – and exceed – these new ones.

DEM high-speed ribbed bar production

DEM Wire Rolling Technology, a company specialised in cold rolling processes and well-known for its cold rolling cassettes, has, thanks to its considerable experience on these machines, developed a special high-speed ribbed bar line starting from wire rod in coils and finishing with 4.0 to 16mm diameter ribbed wire in bars in lengths ranging from 0.9 – 14m, running at speeds of up to 8 m/sec.

The line generally consists of a double pay-off for wire rod uncoiling, a mechanical descaler, a soap applicator unit, a rolling unit (undriven cassette plus driven rolling stand), a twin axis straightening unit, a cutting-to-length high speed flying shear and an unloading bench with a special DEM patented bar braking and unloading system as well as all auxiliary equipment.



▲ High-speed ribbed bar production line

High straightness of the bar is guaranteed by a special twin roller straightening configuration unit which acts without any friction on the material.

This concept avoids any form of wire marking compared to other straightening systems. The smart design allows quick and simple setting up of straightener roll adjustment for any production change.

Straightening and cutting-to-length finishing lines for bar production can also be installed on existing cold drawing/rolling lines for coil production.

DEM Costruzioni Speciali srl – Italy

Fax: +39 0432 655484

Email: info@demills.com

Website: www.demills.com

Wide range of rod processing lines

SAS Engineering & Planning has been in business for 30 years. The company is known for the quality of its products, for the efficiency of its services and for the simplicity and reliability of the solutions installed in its lines.

According to the production requirements of its customers, today SAS is showing a new generation of machinery, based on the most advanced technology in the field of coil-to-bar and bar-to-bar cold processing lines.

SAS Engineering & Planning's combined drawing machine (CDM) means technological value, reliability and ease of use.



▲ A wide range of processing lines from SAS



▲ SAS equipment helps achieve top manufacturing targets in the processing of ferrous and non-ferrous materials

The SAS combined drawing machine can be supplied complete with the most advanced accessories to obtain a totally automated line: pay-off group, pre-straightening device, draw bench, chamfering machine, bundle strapping, weighing and handling, everything managed automatically.

SAS is a significant partner for reaching top manufacturing targets in the processing of ferrous and non-ferrous materials.

SAS production includes:

- coil-to-bar combined drawing lines
- bar-to-bar drawing lines
- turning pointers
- rolling pointers for flats
- double tilting pay-offs
- motorised or idle pay-offs
- robot and coil openers
- mobile pre-straightener
- in line pre-straightener
- hydraulic push pointers
- pulling benches with two cams and two carriages
- in-line and off-line shape straighteners
- hydraulic flying shears
- sound-proof feeders
- two-rolls straightening-polishing machine
- right/left unloading table
- in-line and off-line chamfering and facing machines
- in-line and off-line eddy current test
- in-line and off-line automatic bundle equipment with strapping and weighing

SAS Engineering & Planning Srl – Italy

Fax: +39 031 657223

Email: info@sas.it

Website: www.sas.it

rod & bar production

Automatic cutting and straightening

Delisi Srl manufactures and sells automatic straightening and cutting machines for smooth and ribbed wires of 1mm to 20mm diameter. The feeding speed can be regulated by hand wheel or electronically on the basic model and it is variable from 1 to 200m/min. The spinner feeding is variable, with three speeds. Bar lengths can be measured with encoder or with the target rods.

To suit individual requirements, Delisi can supply the machine with mechanical cut or with hydraulic flying shear cut. With flying shear cut, the wire doesn't stop during the cut operation; the output is higher and the quality of cut wire is improved.



▲ Model HS6H automatic wire straightening and cutting from Delisi Srl

The machine can be equipped with an inverter, or with a powered motor for higher output.

Delisi Srl - Italy Fax: +39 0882 333236
Email: delisi@delisisrl.com **Website:** www.delisisrl.com

All machines can be equipped with an electronic programmer to control the bars to be cut and their lengths. The rod collection bed has three lines with tiltable arms.

The collecting bench of the machine is modular; the rod collection bed is variable to the length required by the customer.

Processing deformed wire rod

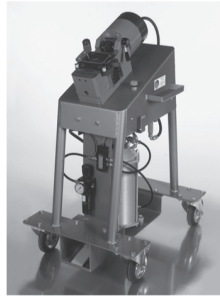
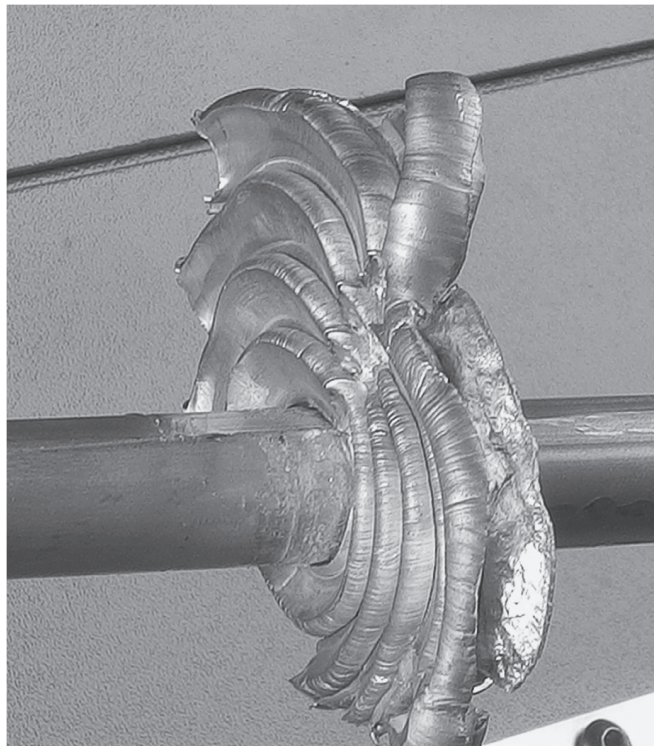
Within the range of equipment designed and produced by the companies of the Eurolls Group (Eurolls, Teurema, Team Meccanica, Vitari, Cortinovis and Sictra) there are two product lines for processing deformed wire rod: the LR straightening and cutting lines and the LS stretching lines.

The LR lines, that utilise spindler or roll straightening systems depending on product requirement, can produce bars of up to 14m in length and 16mm in diameter, at a speed of 6m/sec. Pay-off is either traditionally vertically, for coils of up to 3 ton in weight, or horizontally with a multi-coil system with in-line butt welding and automatic advancement. The line can also be equipped with an automatic tying system to prepare bundles of bars of a set number of pieces with absolute precision.

The LS lines, that have the same pay-off options of the LR lines, mechanically improve the strength and properties of the wire rod as required by the new European code on high ductility materials for the construction industry, in the full diameter range of 5.5 to 16mm.

Product take up is adaptable to specific requirements: horizontal or vertical spoolers, manual, semi or full automatic operation, using fixed and/or collapsible spools to make strapped coils, even with the possibility to position a LR straightening system in conjunction with the LS to produce high ductility rebars.

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Cut rod costs with cold pressure

As energy and materials costs continue to rise, increasing numbers of wire and cable manufacturers are discovering that cold welding is an economical and efficient way to bond non-ferrous rod sections.



▲ PWM's largest rod welder, the electro/hydraulic P1500

British company PWM, which has been at the forefront of cold pressure welding technology for almost 25 years, has developed three powerful rod welders to help manufacturers join rod quickly and cost-effectively. No heat, flux, filler or fumes are involved in the cold weld process, which creates a permanent bond stronger than the parent material.

The EP500 model, one of PWM's best-selling machines, is extremely easy to use and maintain. Virtually no operator training is required and the EP500, like all PWM machines, produces a reliable weld every time, reducing material wastage. Capable of welding copper rod from 5mm to 12.5mm and aluminium from 5mm to 15mm, the EP500 usually only requires maintenance every three years or so.

PWM's largest rod welder, the electro/hydraulic P1500, offers an efficient and economical method of welding large copper rod sections up to 25mm in diameter (aluminium to 35mm). Power consumption is minimal and the P1500 guarantees a sound bond every time.

The hydraulic P1000 model is a compact but powerful machine with a small footprint and a wide capacity ranging from 6mm to 16mm copper and 6mm to 20mm aluminium.

Designed with a sloping front panel and angled mechanism for ease of operation, the P1000's quick release dies and easily adjustable die setting ensure that die changeover is fast and problem-free.

Most non-ferrous metals can be cold welded as well as various alloys.

The cold weld process can also be used to join dissimilar materials, for example, aluminium to copper, and materials of different sizes. PWM's UK-based specialist team is always available to provide advice and support on rod welding techniques and applications.




▲ The cold weld process creates a permanent bond stronger than the parent material

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Properzi launches a new compact 1.6 t/h Al rod line

The aluminium rod market has several facets. A need exists for both ultra simple, low volume, labour intensive CCR lines and for high volume, highly automated and computerised lines.

More and more lines are being dedicated to the production of electrical and mechanical grade aluminium alloys that may require continuous in-line solution heat treatment.

However, there still exists a large demand for EC grade rod in various tempers and relatively low annual volumes thereby demanding a small, versatile, compact line.

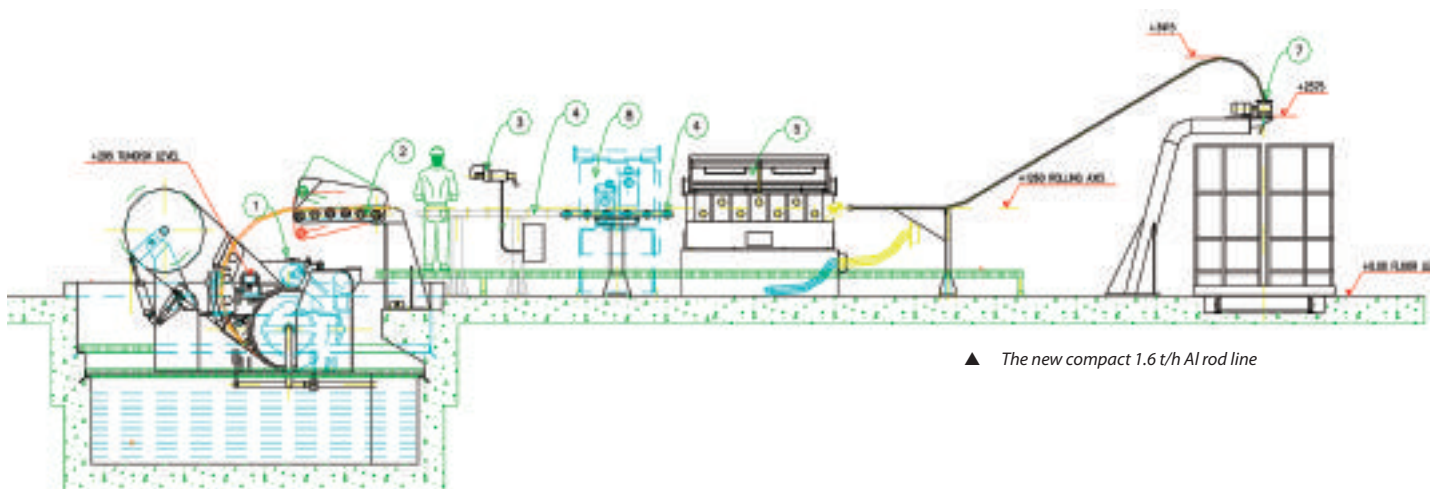
Acting upon these considerations, two years ago Continuous-Properzi designed a new line, suitable to produce approximately 1.6 t/h of EC grade rod in the standard diameter of 9.5mm.

Sturdiness and compactness, with a footprint of just 20m by 8m (excluding the furnaces set) are among the attractive features of this line, that could be nicknamed the "Properzi Baby Line".

Looking at the diagram below, the line is comprised of the following major machine components:



▲ Loose coils



▲ The new compact 1.6 t/h Al rod line

(1) Casting machine, (2) sensor arm, (3) manual bar shear, (4) conveyor, (5) Micromill 69/7 – based on the use of 7 three-roll stands mod. 69, (7) rod deflector and basket coiler.

This line will produce loose coils with a nominal weight of 1,500kg, an outer diameter of 2,000mm and height of 1,500mm.

Carmelo Maria Brocato, director of the Continuous-Properzi sales department, has added, "The first industrial line of this type has just been shipped to a customer's factory in the Gulf area, and it will be commissioned during the third quarter of 2008."

Continuus-Properzi SpA – Italy

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New wire and cable solutions for high-heat environments

By Kurt Bolz, Flame Retardant Application Technology Leader, Dow Wire & Cable; Peter Dreux, Ph D, Senior New Business Development Specialist, Dow Wire & Cable; and Erik Groot-Enzerink, Senior Development Specialist, Dow Wire & Cable

High heat environments, like those found in appliance and automotive applications, offer plenty of challenges for wire and cable compounders, manufacturers and end users alike.

Obviously, temperature tolerance is a key performance factor for high heat resistant compounds, but there are many other important considerations including processing improvements within existing manufacturing practices, environmental tolerances and ease of installation and long service life for the end use application.

With detailed input from all customers along the value chain, engineers and marketing leaders at Dow Wire & Cable identified a widespread need for solutions that would perform well in high heat environments.

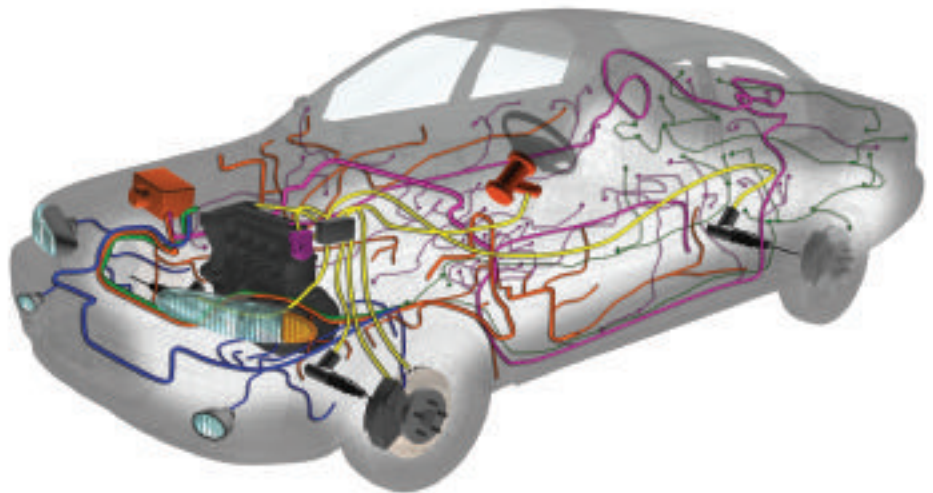
The answer to that need is Unigard™ RE (reduced emissions) HFDA-1492 NT flame retardant (FR) compound that tolerates 125°C temperatures and provides important additional benefits while meeting industry and end-use market specifications.

Customer needs

The global automotive market is a good example of evolving application areas for high heat resistant wires and cables.

From advanced modular systems for navigation to entertainment and power doors, windows and locks, these ever expanding onboard electronic systems are driving the use of more and more wire and cable.

Especially for under-the-hood applications, new solutions not only need to support the physical properties necessary to impart high-heat resistance, but must also be compatible with the vehicle manufacturing and assembly process, while also providing weight and cost savings.



▲ The automotive market – a good example of evolving application areas for high heat resistant wires and cables

For other industries, like appliance manufacturing, similar performance characteristics, such as toughness, flexibility, colour stability and fluid resistance also accompany demands for high heat tolerance.

Environmental benefits

In addition to addressing performance issues, Dow Wire & Cable is committed to developing solutions that also meet environmental sustainability goals. Industry-wide, plastic articles used in enclosed spaces must usually possess flame retardant (FR) properties to provide resistance to combustion.

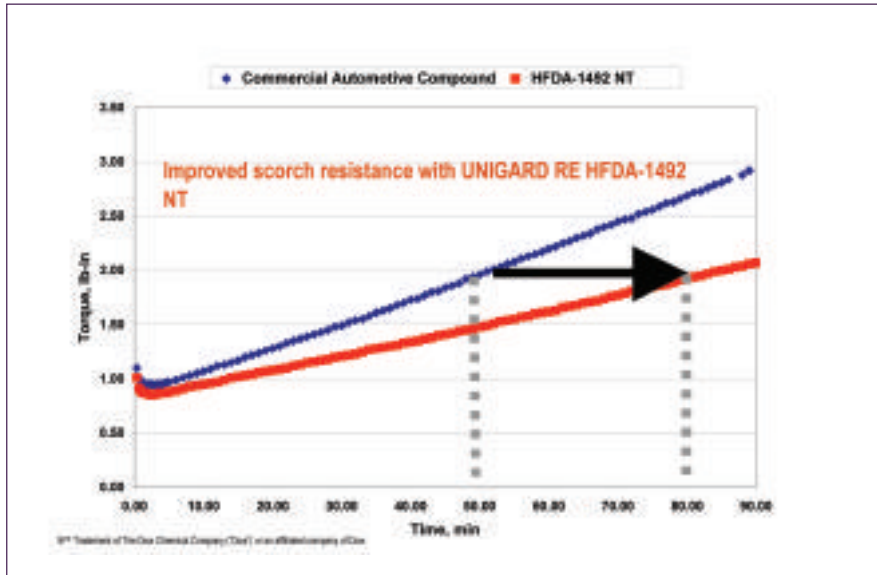
Though halogenated and halogen-free flame retardants (HFFRs) have both traditionally been used, there is a steady global trend toward the selection of HFFRs, due to lower smoke, toxicity and corrosivity, as well as finished-article end-of-life and recycling considerations.

HFFR or low smoke zero-halogen (LSOH) polyolefin-based formulations, such as those that work well in high-heat environments, typically require high levels of additives, which significantly impact both mechanical properties and processability. This poses unique material development challenges, especially in areas where lower levels of halogenated flame retardants (for example, PVC or polyvinyl chloride) have historically been used to meet flame-resistance requirements.

The new Unigard high-heat compound from Dow Wire & Cable addresses these important environmental and legislative requirements by providing PVC-like performance with LSOH advantages at a competitive cost.

Specifications

Unigard™ RE (reduced emissions) HFDA-1492 NT FR compound meets



▲ **Graph 1:** Commercial automotive compound compared to HFDA-1492 NT

automotive industry SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) standards for automotive applications as well as Underwriters Laboratories Inc (UL) specifications for appliance wires.

Specifications for appliance wire:

- Approved for Appliance Wiring Material (AWM)
- UL 44 SIS
- UL 758 AWM style 3173 for 125°C
- Class 38 requirements

Specifications for automotive wire (under-the-hood, 125°C rated):

- SAE J-1128 primary cable
- SAE J-1127 battery cable
- Many global manufacturer standards

copolymer insulation compound. The new material is approximately 4% lighter than traditional materials used for automotive applications and it delivers more output per pound, offering system cost benefits as well (Table 1).

Designed to provide cables that are more flexible with lighter weight and improved colour retention, HFDA-1492 NT also has a low specific gravity of 1.35 to help reduce the consumption of compound per cable length and is showing a 20-50% improvement in line speeds on customers' existing equipment.

The new insulation also features low scorch for more protection during changeovers and low head pressure.

Physical properties

HFDA-1492 NT is a colourable, peroxide-crosslinkable, RoHS-compliant (restriction of hazardous substances) polyethylene

Processing data

A broad processing window, from 105°C to 135°C also supports potentially higher line

Compound	Flex Modulus (psi)
UNIGARD RE HFDA-1492 NT	13000=
Commercial Automotive Compound	18600

▲ **Table 1**

Scorch Time	Commercial Automotive Compound	UNIGARD™ RE HFDA-1492 NT
Ts1 @130°C (min)	49	74
Ts1 @135°C (min)	scorch	48

▲ **Table 2**

rates. HFDA-1492 NT is readily extruded using existing equipment. An on-size pressure die with short land or double taper is recommended (Table 2).

Currently available in formulations that meet North American specifications, this family of high heat compounds will continue to expand to meet the needs of customers in other regions.

In Europe, for example, Dow Wire & Cable is very familiar with the needs of the market segment and is developing and testing next generation irradiated solutions for T3 and other regional specifications. ■

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Zwicks neuestes Probegerät

Präzisionsfedern werden in mechatronischen Baugruppen für die der Automobil-, Rüstungsindustrie, Luft- und Raumfahrtindustrie, sowie im Sport- und Freizeitbereich eingesetzt. Je nach Einsatzgebiet werden nach der Fertigung Stichproben vorgenommen oder teilweise ist eine 100%ige Kontrolle erforderlich.

Auf der Wire 2008 hat Zwick eine Druckfederprüfeinrichtung zur hochgenauen Messung an Präzisionsfedern von 1 bis 2500N präsentiert, die ein extrem gutes messtechnisches Gesamtverhalten aufzeigt, das sogar die Forderungen der Norm EN 7500 übertrifft.

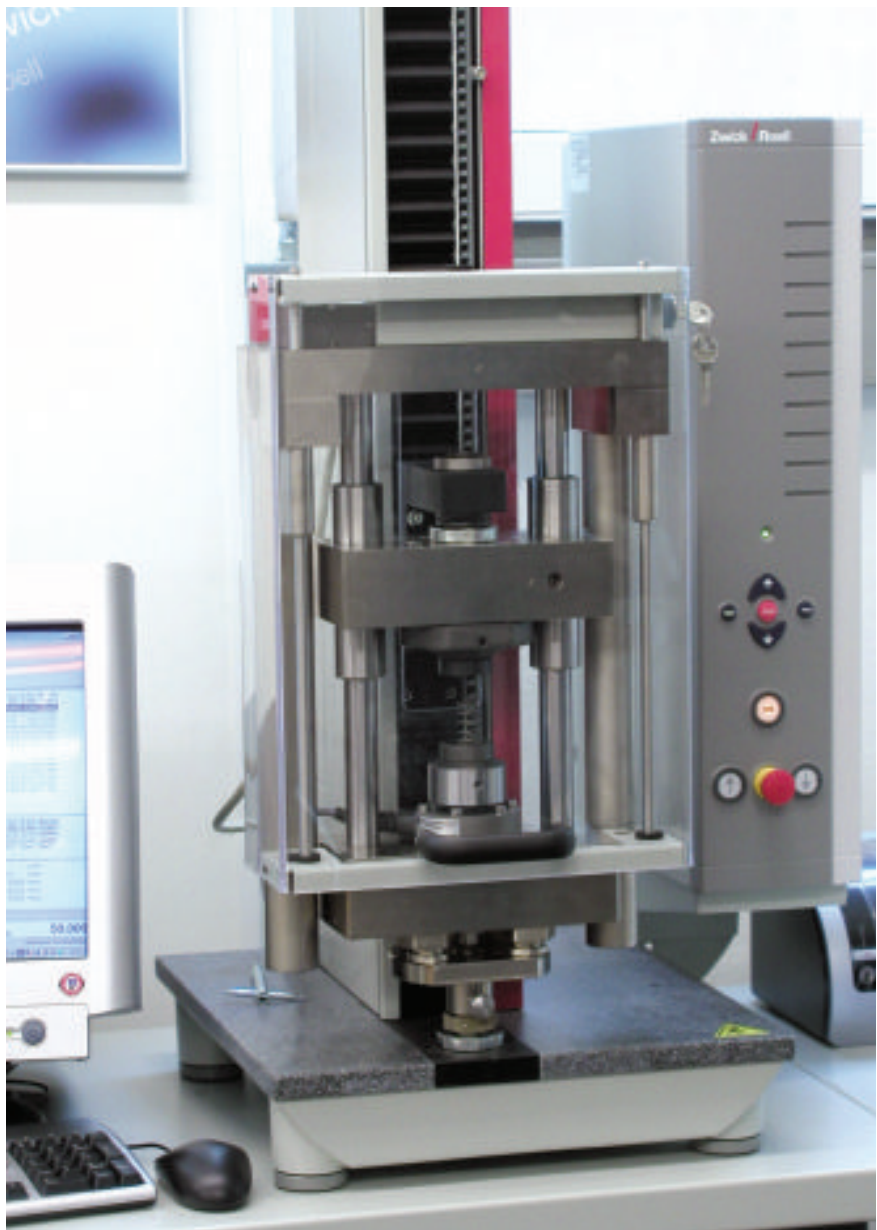
Die Druckfederprüfeinrichtung wird mit der einsäuligen Materialprüfmaschine vom Typ zwicki in Verbindung mit der testControl Elektronik eingesetzt. Die Vorrichtung ist vertikal und seitlich extrem steif und bereits mit einem Präzisions-Kraftaufnehmer ausgerüstet. Die Überlastsicherung verhindert, daß der Kraftaufnehmer durch zufälliges Blockfahren Schaden leidet.

Präzisionsführungen erlauben nur vertikale Bewegungen der Druckplatten. Der extrem steife und querkraftunempfindliche Kraftaufnehmer bewirkt, daß Messfehler durch Nachgiebigkeiten unter Last oder außermittige Kräfte auf ein Mindestmaß reduziert werden.

Die Prüfvorrichtung ist für indirekte Federlängenmessungen ausgelegt. Durch die elektronische Kompensation in Echtzeit der bereits sehr geringen axialen Eigenverformung wird bereits mit indirekter Messung eine sehr hohe Genauigkeit erreicht.

Die Vorrichtung kann mit einer CE-konformen Schutztür ausgerüstet werden. Ebenfalls vorgesehen ist der Einsatz von Knickschutzstangen, die den Federgeometrien entsprechend angepaßt werden müssen.

Spezielle Programme der Prüfsoftware testXpert® wurden entwickelt, um sich den Anforderungen beider Produktionsprüfungen oder der Endkontrolle sowie auch den Forschungs- und Entwicklungsversuche



▲ Federprüfmaschine von Zwick

anzupassen, das macht die Prüfmaschine universell noch einsetzbarer. Mit dem Standardprüfprogramm für Qualitätskontrolle können die meisten industriell geforderten Tests schnell und ohne Softwareanpassung durchgeführt werden. Mit einem Master-Prüfprogramm sind auch zyklische Tests möglich. Alle Zwick Programme sind für die Optionen des integrierten

Datenaustauschs mit ODBC-Datenbanken vorbereitet. Damit fügen sich die Federprüfmaschinen ideal in die jeweilige Datenlandschaft des Unternehmens ein.

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Pourtier Rotationsmaschine für ABB

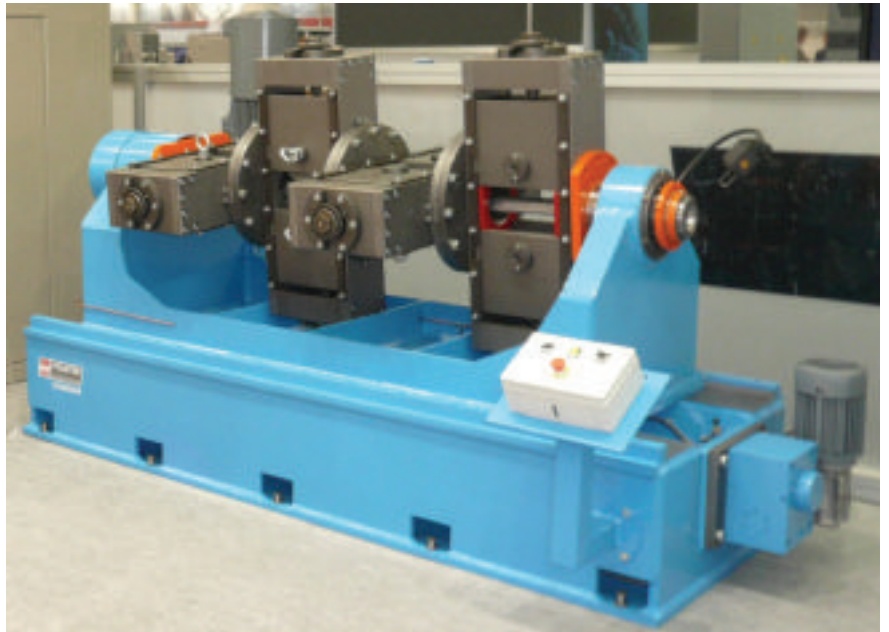
Pourtier - Gauder Group wurde ein Auftrag für ein Projekt für ABB HV Cables in Schweden erteilt.

ABB eine lange Tradition im Hochspannungsbereich, insbesondere was unterirdische XLPE-Kabel und HVDC-Unterseekabel betrifft. Die Herausforderung besteht in einer Verseilanlage und in einer Abschirmungsanlage, um Stromkabel mit sehr großen Durchmessern herzustellen.

Die 128-Draht Korbverseilanlage besteht aus 5 Körben (12+18+24+30+36) und ist speziell für die Herstellung von Rundleitern mit Profildraht entworfen worden, sowie für vorher wendelförmig aufgebrachte Segmentleiter für Stark- und Sonderstarkstromkabel.

Dies wird erzielt indem ein neuer vorher wendelförmig aufgebrachter "Jumbo"-Verdichterkopf mit vier Rollenpaaren, die je einen Durchmesser von 300mm aufweisen, eingesetzt wird sowie ein doppelter Scheibenabzug von 4m Durchmesser mit 40 Tonnen Zugkraft.

Da außerdem ABB ein sicheres Ladesystem suchte, hat Pourtier ein



▲ ABB kaufte seine erste Pourtier Milliken Trommelverseilanlage vor 15 Jahren

seitliches automatisches Robotersystem entworfen, das ein komplettes Rack leitet ohne Spulen einzeln zu laden oder zu entladen.

Der zweite Projektteil betrifft eine Korb-Abschirmungsanlage, bzw. 84-Drähte, die

aus zwei Körben aus 42 Spulen (6 Reihen von 7 Spulen) hergestellt werden.

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Nexans liefert Kabel für Flugfeldbeleuchtung für den Internationalen Flughafen Abu Dhabi

Nexans hat die Kabelverlegung für die Flugfeldbeleuchtung für die 2. Ausbauphase des Internationalen Flughafens Abu Dhabi abgeschlossen.

Das Projekt umfaßte 1.900km 5-kV-Primärkabel (FAA L-824C) zur Stromversorgung der Lichttransformatoren sowie 770km H07FN-F-Sekundärkabel, die die Transformatoren mit den Flugfeldlampen verbinden.

Nexans lieferte die Flugfeldbeleuchtungskabel an Crouse Hinds, den amerikanischen Beleuchtungsspezialisten, der für die Kabelverlegung verantwortlich war. Der Vertrag mit einer Laufzeit von zwölf Monaten und einem Wert von rund 2,6 Millionen Euro trat im Mai 2007 in Kraft.

Nexans erhielt den Vertrag, da die im Nexans-Werk im französischen Lyon hergestellten Kabel sämtlichen internationalen Spezifikationen für Flugfeldanwendungsbereiche entsprachen und wettbewerbsfähige Preise aufwiesen.

Der neue Mega-Terminalkomplex in Mittellage verfügt zunächst über eine Kapazität von 20 Millionen Passagieren pro Jahr und später, wenn sich Abu Dhabi zu einem bedeutenden Drehkreuz in Nahost entwickelt, wird die Passagierkapazität 50 Millionen betragen.

Das Projekt bietet Etihad Airways, der Fluggesellschaft der Vereinigten Arabischen Emirate, einen erstklassigen Heimatflughafen.

Neben den Flugfeldbeleuchtungskabeln für den Internationalen Flughafen Abu Dhabi hat Nexans eine umfangreiche Palette von Kabeln, Kabelsystemen und Kabelzubehör für den anspruchsvollen Flughafenmarkt entwickelt.

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Fullstage vertreibt Drahtbiegemaschinen von Taihei

Fullstage Technologies, ein Vertreter von hochwertigen CNC-Rohrbiegemaschinen aus Japan und Taiwan, freut sich bekannt zu geben, ab sofort CNC-Drahtbiegemaschine mit bis zu 11-Achsen liefern zu können.



▲ Drahtbiegeausrüstungen stehen bei Fullstage zur Verfügung

Fullstage hat das Recht erlangt, Ausrüstungen zu vertreiben, die von einem Marktführer in der japanischen Drahtbiegeindustrie – Taihei

Osaka - hergestellt werden. Taihei bekannt für die Entwicklung und Produktion hochwertiger Maschinen, die in einer breiten Auswahl an Anwendungen eingesetzt werden.

Die Industrien, in denen die Maschinen von Taihei Einsatz finden, schließen folgende Bereiche ein: Automobil, Elektronik, Halbleiter und Bauwesen. Sehr Nahe an München gelegen, wird Fullstage Technologies ab

sofort exklusiv die Vertriebs- und Serviceverantwortungen für die Ausrüstungen von Taihei in Europa (einschließlich ehemalige GUS-Staaten), Türkei, den Mittleren Osten und Afrika übernehmen.

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Neue Produktbroschüren

Maschinenfabrik Niehoff hat eine komplett neue Auflage seiner Produktbroschüren erstellt.

Niehoff ändert und erweitert ständig seine Produktpalette. Parallel zu diesen Entwicklungen, hat es sich als erforderlich erwiesen die komplette Produktauswahl und Leistungen in einem geeigneten Format vorzustellen. Demzufolge wurde die ganze Sammlung der Produktmaterialien von Niehoff aktualisiert und umgestaltet.

Die neuen, übersichtlich dargestellten Broschüren weisen ein Standardformat auf, mit Produktfotos und detaillierten technischen Daten.

Die neue Broschüren wurde in englischer, deutscher und russischer Sprache gedruckt. Exemplare davon stehen in den Hauptsitzen von Niehoff zur Verfügung sowie in den Tochtergesellschaften, Vertriebs- und Service-Unternehmen oder durch die Website.

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AMSC erhält vier D-VAR® Aufträge für Windparks in drei Kontinenten

American Superconductor Corporation (AMSC) erhielt für seine D-VAR® Lösung zur Netzverbindung von Windparks, Aufträge aus Australien, Kanada und dem Vereinigten Königreich. In den Windparks finden Windstromsysteme Einsatz, die von drei verschiedenen internationalen Herstellern von Windkraftanlagen geliefert werden.

Die D-VAR Systeme, die für die Lieferung der Stromversorgung für über 200 Megawatt (MW) Sammelspannung sorgen, werden an alle vier Windparks innerhalb der nächsten 12 Monate ausgeliefert. AMSC verfügt nun über eine eingerichtete Basis und Aufträge für Lösungen, um weltweit ca. 7.350MW Windstrom zu bedienen, d.h. ein Zuwachs von über 120% in den letzten 12 Monaten.

Dank der von AMSC patentierten D-VAR-Systeme können Windparkentwickler nationale und lokale Anforderungen erfüllen, die in vielen Ländern eingesetzt wurden, um Windparks an Stromnetze anzuschließen. Die Kunden von AMSC nutzen D-VAR Netzverbindungs-lösungen, um die Spannungsregelung und den Leistungsfaktor-korrektur zu bieten, samt Kundendienst nach einem Ausfall um Spannungskollapse am Stromnetz zu verhindern.

“Unsere D-VAR-Lösungen werden rund um die Welt angewandt, um Windparks sicher mit elektrischen Stromnetzen zu verbinden,” sagte Chuck Stankiewicz, leitender Vize-Präsident und Generaldirektor von AMSC Power Systems. “Diese Lösungen mildern Spannungsinstabilitäten bei Windparks und ermöglichen somit Windparkbesitzern und -bedienern erheblich variierende Anforderungen im Bereich Netzverbindungen rund um die Welt zu erfüllen. Damit wird die Qualität der Spannung gesichert, die den Kunden geliefert wird und in vielen Fällen die Zuverlässigkeit des lokalen Stromnetzes verbessert.”

Nach einem vom Weltwindenergieverband Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) im April 2008 herausgegebenen Bericht hat die Kapazität des Windstroms 2007 weltweit um 27% zugenommen, bzw. bis zu über 94 Gigawatt (GW). Entsprechend diesem Bericht wird angenommen, daß der Markt der Weltwindenergie um weitere 155% (zu 240 GW) installierter Gesamtkapazität bis 2012 wachsen wird.

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Neue Draht- und Kabellösungen für Umgebungen mit hohen Temperaturen

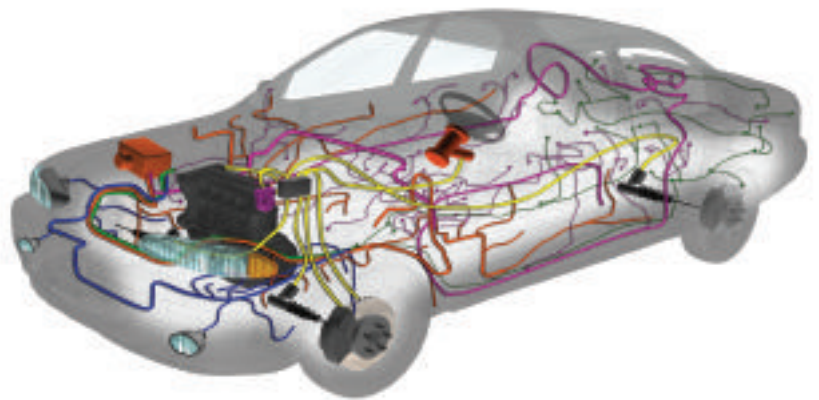
Von Kurt Bolz, Leiter des Bereichs Technologie flammhemmender Anwendungen, Dow Wire & Cable; Peter Dreux, Ph D, Senior Spezialist für die Entwicklung neuer Tätigkeiten, Dow Wire & Cable und Erik Groot-Enzerink, Senior Spezialist für Entwicklung, Dow Wire & Cable

Umgebungen mit hohen Temperaturen, wie in Haushaltsgeräten- und Automobilanwendungen, bieten sowohl Compound-Entwerfern wie Herstellern und Endanwendern zahlreiche Herausforderungen im Bereich Draht- und Kabel. Natürlich ist die Temperaturtoleranz ein entscheidender Leistungsfaktor für hochtemperaturbeständige Compounds, doch sind auch viele andere wichtige Erwägungen in Betracht zu ziehen, einschließlich Verbesserungen innerhalb der bestehenden Werkspraxis, Umwelttoleranzen und einfache Installation sowie lange Nutzungsdauer für die Endanwendung.

Mit detaillierten Beiträgen aller Kunden entlang der Wertschöpfungskette, haben Techniker und Marketingleiter bei Dow Wire & Cable einen verbreiteten Bedarf an Lösungen erkannt, die in Umgebungen mit hohen Temperaturen gute Leistungen bieten sollten. Die Lösung dieses Bedarfs ist das Unigard™ RE (reduzierte Emissionen) HFDA-1492 NT flammwidrige (FR) Compound, das Temperaturen bis zu 125°C toleriert, wichtige weitere Vorteile bietet und gleichzeitig die Industrie- und Marktspezifikationen für den Endverbrauch erfüllt.

Kundenanforderungen

Der weltweite Automobilmarkt ist ein gutes Beispiel für sich entwickelnde Anwendungsbereiche für hochtemperaturbeständige Drähte und Kabel. Von den fortschrittlichen Modularsystemen für die Navigation bis zu Unterhaltungssystemen und automatischen Türen, Fenstern und Verriegelungen, treiben diese stetig wachsenden elektronischen Onboard-Systeme immer mehr die Anwendung von Draht und Kabel an.



▲ Der weltweite Automobilmarkt ist ein gutes Beispiel für sich entwickelnde Anwendungsbereiche für hochtemperaturbeständige Drähte und Kabel.

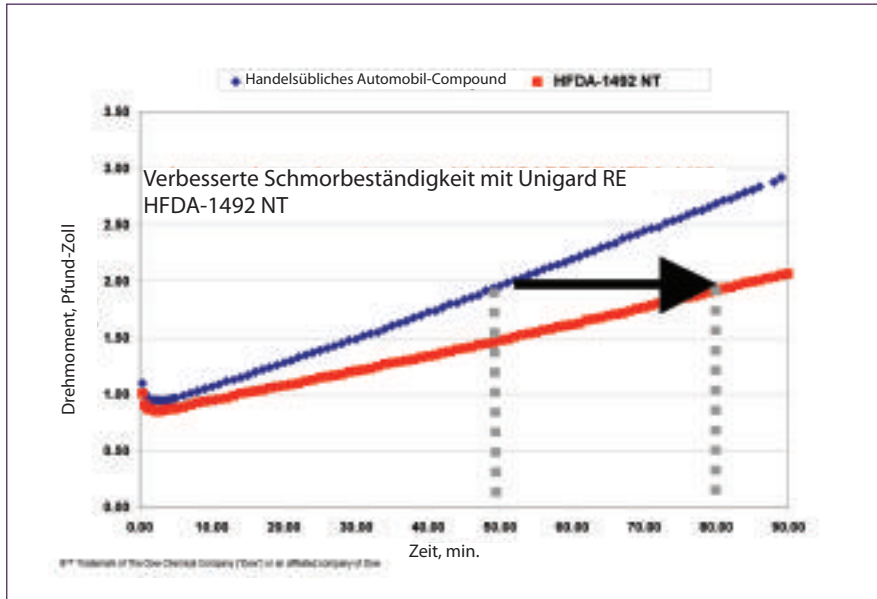
Insbesondere für Anwendungen unter der Haube, haben die neuen Lösungen nicht nur die physikalischen Eigenschaften zu unterstützen, die erforderlich sind um Hochtemperaturbeständigkeit zu verleihen, sondern müssen auch mit den Verfahren der Automobilherstellung und -zusammensetzung verträglich sein und gleichzeitig Gewichts- und Kosteneinsparungen bieten. Bei anderen Industriebereichen, wie z. B. bei der Herstellung von Haushaltsgeräten, sind ähnliche Leistungsmerkmale, wie Zähigkeit, Flexibilität, Farbstabilität und Flüssigkeitsbeständigkeit mit den Anforderungen nach hohen Temperaturtoleranzen verbunden.

Vorteile für die Umwelt

Neben Aspekten die mit der Leistung zu tun haben, ist Dow Wire & Cable darauf bedacht Lösungen zu entwickeln, die auch umweltverträgliche Ziele

erfüllen. Auf Industrieebene müssen Kunststoffartikel, die in geschlossenen Räumen eingesetzt werden, in der Regel flammwidrige (FR) Eigenschaften besitzen, um Brandwiderstand zu bieten. Obwohl bis jetzt halogen- und halogenfreie flammbeständige Materialien (HFFRs) eingesetzt wurden, besteht weltweit eine stetige Tendenz HFFRs auf Grund der geringen Rauchbildung sowie der niedrigeren Toxizität und Korrosivität, unter Berücksichtigung der Veralterung und des Recyclings der Fertigartikel, auszuwählen.

HFFR oder raucharme, halogenfreie (LS0H) polyolefin-basierte Formulierungen, wie jene die sich für Umgebungen mit hohen Temperaturen gut eignen, erfordern in der Regel ein hohes Additivniveau, das eine wesentliche Auswirkung auf die mechanischen Eigenschaften sowie auf die Verarbeitungseigenschaften hat. Dies stellt einzigartige Herausforderungen für die Materialentwicklung dar, insbesondere in den Bereichen wo schon immer



niedrigere Niveaus an halogen flammbeständigen Materialien (z. B. PVC oder Polyvinylchlorid) benutzt wurden, um den Anforderungen hinsichtlich der Flammbeständigkeit nachzukommen.

Das neue hochtemperaturbeständige Unigard-Compound von Dow Wire & Cable erfüllt diese wichtigen Umwelt- und Gesetzgebungsanforderungen indem PVC-ähnliche Leistungen mit LSOH-Vorteilen zu konkurrenzfähigen Kosten angeboten werden.

Spezifikationen

Das Compound Unigard™ RE (reduzierte Emissionen) HFDA-1492 NT FR erfüllt die SAE-Standards (Society of Automotive Engineers) der Fahrzeugindustrie im Bereich Automobilanwendungen sowie die Spezifikationen von Underwriters Laboratories Inc (UL) für Haushaltsgeräteverkabelung.

Compound	Flexionsmodul (psi)
UNIGARD RE HFDA-1492 NT	13000=
Handelsübliches Automobil-Compound	18600

▲ Tabelle 1

Schmorzeit	Handelsübliches Automobil-Compound	UNIGARD™ RE HFDA-1492 NT
Ts1 bei 130°C (min)	49	74
Ts1 bei 135°C (min)	Schmor	48

▲ Tabelle 2

Spezifikationen für Haushaltsgeräteverkabelung:

- Zugelassene Materialien für die Haushaltsgeräteverkabelung - Appliance Wiring Material (AWM)
- UL 44 SIS
- UL 758 AWM Style 3173 für 125°C
- Anforderungen der Klasse 38

Spezifikationen für Fahrzeugleitungen (unter der Haube, bei 125°C):

- SSAE J-1128 Primärkabel
- SAE J-1127 Batteriekabel
- Viele weltweite Herstellerstandards

Physikalische Eigenschaften

HFDA-1492 NT ist ein färbbares, peroxidvernetztes, den RoHS-Richtlinien (restriction of hazardous substances - Beschränkung bestimmter gefährlicher Substanzen) entsprechendes Polyethylen-Copolymer-Isoliercompound.

Das neue Material ist um ca. vier Prozent leichter als herkömmliche Materialien, die für Automobilanwendungen benutzt werden und bietet eine höhere Nutzung je Pfund sowie Systemkostenvorteile. (Tabelle 1)

Für Kabel entworfen, die flexibler mit einem niedrigerem Gewicht und verbesserter Farbbeeibehaltung sind, besitzt HFDA-1492 NT auch eine niedrige spezifische Dichte von 1,35, um die Reduzierung des Verbrauchs von Compound je Leitungslänge zu unterstützen, während eine Erhöhung der Liniengeschwindigkeiten von 20-50% bei den bestehenden Kundenausrüstungen erzielt wird. Die neue Isolierung ist auch durch den niedrigen Schmor für einen größeren Schutz während der Umstellungen gekennzeichnet sowie durch den niedrigen Kopfdruck. (Tabelle 2)

Verarbeitungsdaten

Ein breites Verarbeitungsfenster von 105°C bis 135°C unterstützt auch potentiell höhere Linienraten. HFDA-1492 NT kann leicht mit Einsatz der bestehenden Ausrüstung extrudiert werden. Ein maßgerechter Druckziehstein mit kurzem Steg oder doppeltem Konus wird empfohlen.

Derzeit verfügbar in Mischungen, die die nordamerikanischen Spezifikationen erfüllen, wird diese Familie von Hochtemperatur-Compounds sich fortlaufend erweitern, um den Kundenanforderungen in anderen Regionen nachzukommen. In Europa ist Dow Wire & Cable z. B. mit den Marktanforderungen sehr vertraut und entwickelt und testet derzeit bestrahlte Lösungen der nächsten Generation für T3 sowie andere regionale Spezifikationen. ■

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Новейший прибор компании «Цвик» может испытывать пружины

Прецизионные пружины используются в электромеханических агрегатах в автомобильной, оборонной и аэрокосмической промышленности, а также в производстве товаров для спорта и отдыха. В зависимости от области применения, после изготовления производятся выборочные испытания, в некоторых же случаях необходим сплошной контроль.

На выставке wire 2008 компания «Цвик» (Zwick) продемонстрировала прибор для испытаний пружин на сжатие, предназначенный для высокоточного измерения характеристик прецизионных пружин под нагрузкой от 1 до 2500 Н. Он обладает великолепными общими характеристиками измерительной техники, превышающими даже требования стандарта EN 7500.

Прибор для испытания пружин на сжатие использует универсальную одноколонную испытательную машину серии *zwicki* с электронным блоком *testControl*.

Устройство обладает высокой вертикальной и поперечной жесткостью и поставляется с уже установленным прецизионным динамометрическим датчиком. Система аварийного отключения защищает датчик от повреждения в случае перегрузки.

Прецизионные направляющие позволяют прижимам плунжера перемещаться только в вертикальном направлении.

Запатентованный динамометрический датчик обладает высокой жесткостью, нечувствителен к поперечным нагрузкам и гарантирует сведение к минимуму ошибок измерения, возникающих от недостаточной жесткости под нагрузкой или вследствие эксцентricности приложения силы.

Прибор предназначен для непрямого измерения длины пружины, что обеспечивает очень высокую степень точности, поскольку и без того небольшое значение осевой деформации может быть компенсировано электронным блоком в реальном времени. Прибор может быть



▲ Подпись под рисунком: прибор для испытаний пружин компании «Цвик»

оборудован защитным ограждением, соответствующим стандарту ЕС, а также согласованной с геометрией пружины центрирующей направляющей, которая предотвращает выпучивание.

Специальные пружины или пружины, работающие на растяжение, также можно испытывать с использованием соответствующей оснастки и приспособлений, и в этих целях прижимы компании «Цвик» можно легко заменить на подходящие захваты. Специальные программы, входящие

в пакет программного обеспечения *testXpert*® для испытания материалов, были разработаны для проведения как технического, или выходного, контроля, так и научно-исследовательских и опытно-конструкторских работ, что делает испытательную машину гораздо более универсальной.

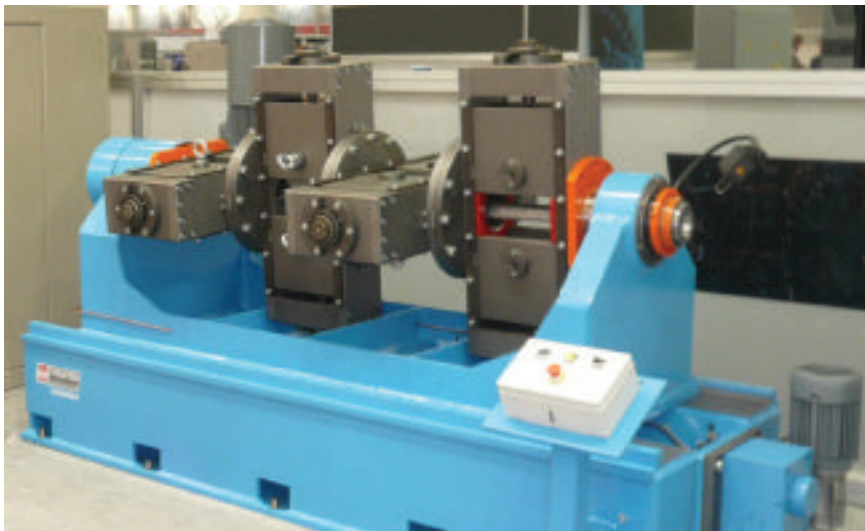
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«Пуртье» поставит крутильную роторную машину для компании «АББ»

Группа компаний «Пуртье – Годер груп» (Pourtier - Gauder Group) получила заказ на поставку оборудования для производства высоковольтного кабеля от шведской компании «АББ» (ABB).

Жесткорамная крутильная машина, предназначенная для скрутки 128 нитей, состоит из 5 крутильных фонарей (на 12, 18, 24, 30 и 36 бобин) и специально сконструирована для производства круглых токопроводящих жил из профильной проволоки, а также предварительно сформированных спиральных секторов жил для кабелей высокого и сверхвысокого напряжения. Это достигается путем использования новой спирально-навивочной и уплотняющей головки типа «jumbo» с четырьмя парами валков диаметром 300 мм, а также двухбарабанного тягового устройства диаметром 4 м и тяговым усилием 40 тонн.

Вторую часть установки составляет жесткорамная экранировочная машина: 84 проволоки в двух фонарях по 42 катушки (6 рядов по 7 катушек).



▲ Первую машину общей скрутки Drum Twister компании «Пуртье» для производства кабелей с жилой типа «Милликен» «АББ» купила 15 лет назад

Линия оборудована двумя полностью автоматическими загрузочными устройствами для загрузки катушек диаметром 630 мм со стойки в держатель.

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«Нексанс» поставляет кабель для системы светосигнального оборудования лётного поля в международном аэропорту Абу-Даби

Компания «Нексанс» (Nexans) закончила монтаж кабелей системы светосигнального оборудования летного поля для второй очереди проекта расширения международного аэропорта в Абу-Даби. Проект включал поставку 1900 км основного кабеля напряжением 5 кВ (FAA L-824C) для запитки осветительных трансформаторов и 770 км распределительного кабеля H07FN-F, соединяющего трансформаторы с осветительными приборами летного поля.

Новый огромный терминальный комплекс, расположенный посередине летного поля, первоначально будет способен принимать 20 миллионов пассажиров в год, а в дальнейшем, с учетом превращения Абу-Даби в один из крупнейших транспортных узлов Ближнего Востока, до 50 миллионов пассажиров в год. В результате реализации проекта будет создан первоклассный аэродром для базирования национального перевозчика Объединенных Арабских Эмиратов – авиакомпании «Этихад айруэйз» (Etihad Airways).

Кроме кабелей для систем аэродромного светосигнального оборудования, поставляемых для международного аэропорта в Абу-Даби, компания «Нексанс» разработала широкий ассортимент кабелей, кабельных систем и принадлежностей для высококонкурентного рынка оборудования для аэропортов.

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HEARL HEATON

«Фулстейдж» станет дистрибьютором оборудования для гибки проволоки компании «Тайхей»

Компания «Фулстейдж технолоджиз» (Fullstage Technologies), дистрибьютор высокопроизводительных трубогибочных станков с ЧПУ японского и тайваньского производства, с удовлетворением объявляет, что она может предложить немедленную поставку станков с ЧПУ для гибки проволоки, имеющих до 11 управляемых осей.



▲ Оборудование для гибки проволоки от компании «Фулстейдж»

«Фулстейдж» получила право стать дистрибьютором оборудования, произведенного лидером японского рынка оборудования для гибки проволоки – компанией «Тайхей» (Taihei) из Осаки. «Тайхей» основана в 1959 году и широко известна благодаря разработке и производству высококачественного оборудования, применяемого в самых различных целях.

Станки компании «Тайхей» используются в таких отраслях, как автомобилестроение, электротехника, полупроводниковая промышленность и строительство.

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Новые рекламные буклеты

Компания «Машиненфабрик Нихофф» (Maschinenfabrik Niehoff) выпустила комплект совершенно новых буклетов, посвященных производимому ею оборудованию.

«Нихофф» постоянно улучшает и расширяет ассортимент своей продукции. По этой причине появилась необходимость представить весь спектр оборудования и услуг в более подходящем формате. В результате все рекламные материалы по продукции компании «Нихофф» были откорректированы и заново оформлены.

Новые брошюры изданы на английском, немецком и русском языках. Их можно получить в главном офисе компании «Нихофф», ее филиалах, компаниях, производящих продажу и обслуживание, или скачать с Web-страницы компании.

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«Америкэн сьюперкондактор корпорэйшн» получила заказы на четыре устройства D-VAR® для ветряных электростанций на трех континентах

Компания «Америкэн сьюперкондактор корпорэйшн» (American Superconductor Corporation) получила заказы на выпускаемые ею системы регулирования сетевого напряжения D-VAR® для объединения энергосистем ветряных электростанций, расположенных в Австралии, Канаде и Великобритании.

Системы D-VAR, которые будут поддерживать стабильность напряжения в электрической сети общей мощностью более 200 мегаватт (МВт), будут поставлены на все четыре ветряные электростанции в течение следующих 12 месяцев. Компания «Америкэн сьюперкондактор корпорэйшн» уже имеет парк смонтированного оборудования и получила заказы на поставку систем, которые будут обслуживать расположенные по всему миру ветряные электростанции мощностью около 7350 МВт, причем объем заказов за последние 12 месяцев увеличился более чем на 120 %.

Разработанные компанией «Америкэн сьюперкондактор корпорэйшн» системы D-VAR позволяют проектировщикам ветряных электростанций учитывать требования принятых во многих странах национальных и региональных стандартов по подключению ветряных электростанций к энергетическим сетям.

«Наши системы D-VAR используются во всем мире для безопасного подключения ветряных электростанций к энергетическим сетям, – сказал Чак Станкевич (Chuck Stankiewicz), исполнительный вице-президент и главный управляющий подразделения силовых систем компании «Америкэн сьюперкондактор корпорэйшн». – Они снижают нестабильность напряжения ветряных электростанций и позволяют их владельцам и операторам выполнять сильно различающиеся в разных странах мира требования, предъявляемые к объединению энергосистем ветряных электростанций».

Согласно данным отчета Всемирного совета по ветровой энергетике (Global Wind Energy Council), опубликованного в апреле 2008 года, мощность ветряных электростанций в мире в 2007 году увеличилась на 27 % и достигла более 94 гигавайт (ГВт). По данным отчета, ожидается, что к 2012 году мировой рынок электроэнергии, выработанной на ветряных электростанциях, вырастет еще на 155 процентов, и общая установленная мощность составит 240 ГВт.

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Новые решения для кабельно-проводниковой продукции, используемой в условиях высокотемпературных режимов

Курт Болц, ведущий специалист по технологиям применения ингибиторов горения, «Доу уайр энд кейбл»;
Петер Дрё, доктор наук, старший специалист по развитию нового бизнеса, «Доу уайр энд кейбл»;
и Эрик Гроот-Энцеринк, старший специалист в области перспективных разработок, «Доу уайр энд кейбл»

Высокотемпературные среды, встречающиеся, например, в бытовой технике и автомобилях, представляют большие сложности как для составителей кабельных компаундов, так и для производителей и конечных потребителей кабельно-проводниковой продукции. Очевидно, что интервал допустимых температур является ключевым эксплуатационным показателем для компаундов с высокой жаростойкостью, однако при этом следует принимать во внимание целый ряд других важных факторов, включая совершенствование технологического процесса в рамках существующего производства, устойчивость к воздействию окружающей среды, удобство монтажа и длительность эксплуатации конечного изделия.

Изучив детальную информацию от клиентов по всей цепочке создания добавленной стоимости, ведущие инженеры и маркетологи компании «Доу уайр энд кейбл» (Dow Wire & Cable) выявили насущную необходимость в материалах, демонстрирующих высокие эксплуатационные характеристики при использовании в высокотемпературных средах. Ответом на эту потребность стал не поддерживающий горения (FR) компаунд Unigard™ RE (с пониженным газо- и дымовыделением) HFDA-1492 NT, сохраняющий работоспособность при температуре 125 °С и обладающий другими важными преимуществами, при этом соответствующий требованиям производителей и конечных потребителей.

Требования потребителей

Мировой автомобильный рынок является хорошим примером возникновения новых сфер применения для термостойких проводов и кабелей. Расширение ассортимента устанавливаемого в автомобилях электронного оборудования – от современных модульных систем

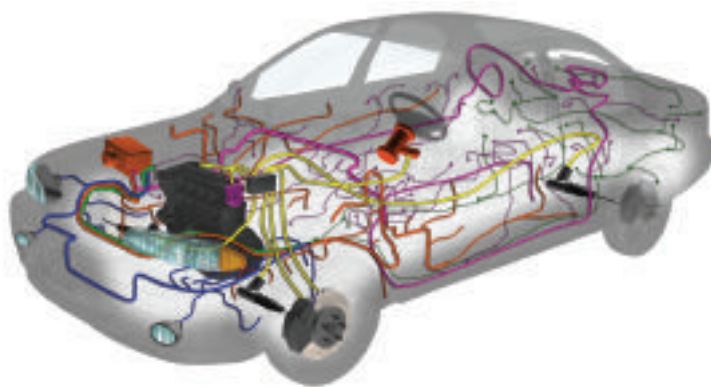
навигации до устройств для развлечения и приводов дверей, окон и замков, – ведет к использованию все большего количества кабельно-проводниковых изделий. Новые разработки должны не только иметь физические свойства, которые могут обеспечить высокую термостойкость, но и быть совместимыми с технологией производства и сборки транспортных средств, а также способствовать снижению веса и экономии затрат, причем в особенности это касается проводов и кабелей, монтируемых в моторном отсеке.

В других отраслях промышленности, таких как производство бытовой техники, требование высокой термостойкости сопровождается необходимостью наличия таких эксплуатационных характеристик, как прочность, гибкость, стойкость к обесцвечиванию и к воздействию жидкостей.

Экологические преимущества

Компания «Доу уайр энд кейбл» является приверженцем разработки изделий, которые отвечают задачам обеспечения экологической устойчивости, а не только предлагают решения эксплуатационных проблем.

В соответствии с отраслевыми стандартами изделия из пластика, используемые в закрытых помещениях, должны, как правило, обладать антипиреновыми (FR) свойствами для обеспечения стойкости к возгоранию. Несмотря на традиционное



▲ Рис. 1. Мировой автомобильный рынок является хорошим примером возникновения новых сфер применения для термостойких проводов и кабелей

использование как галогенсодержащих, так и безгалогенных ингибиторов горения (HFFR), наблюдается устойчивая общемировая тенденция к выбору безгалогенных ингибиторов горения по причине присущего им меньшего уровня дымовыделения, токсичности и коррозионной активности, а также по соображениям, связанным с предельной долговечностью и утилизацией готовых изделий.

Компаунды на основе полиолефинов типа HFFR или безгалогенных материалов с низким выделением дыма (LS0H), демонстрирующие хорошие эксплуатационные характеристики в высокотемпературных средах, обычно требуют применения большого количества добавок, что заметно влияет как на их механические свойства, так и на технологичность. Разработка такого материала представляет собой сложную задачу, особенно для тех сфер применения, где для выполнения требований по пламestойкости исторически используются небольшие количества галогенсодержащих ингибиторов горения (например, ПВХ, или поливинилхлорид).

Новый термостойкий компаунд Unigard компании «Доу уайр энд кейбл» соответствует всем природоохранным и законодательным требованиям,



демонстрируя при этом эксплуатационные характеристики, сходные с ПВХ, и предлагая преимущества безгалогенных компаундов с низким выделением дыма по конкурентоспособной цене.

Характеристики

Компаунд Unigard™ RE (с пониженным газо- и дымовыделением) HFDA-1492 NT FR соответствует требованиям стандартов Общества инженеров автомобильной промышленности (SAE) для изделий, применяемых в автомобилестроении, а также спецификациям Лаборатории по технике безопасности США (UL) на провода для бытовой техники.

Спецификации на провод для бытовой техники:

- Одобрено для использования в качестве проводникового материала для бытовых приборов (AWM)
- Соответствует стандарту UL 44 SIS
- Соответствует артикулу AWM 3173 стандарта UL 758 для использования при температурах до 125 °C
- Соответствует требованиям по классу 38

Спецификации на автомобильный провод (для установки в моторном отсеке и эксплуатации при температурах до 125 °C)

- Соответствует стандарту SAE J-1128 для проводов первичной цепи зажигания
- Соответствует стандарту SAE J-1127 для кабелей для подключения аккумулятора
- Соответствует стандартам различных мировых производителей

Физические свойства

HFDA-1492 NT – окрашиваемый изоляционный компаунд на основе сополимера полиэтилена, сшиваемый методом перекисного сшивания, соответствующий требованиям Ограничений на использование опасных материалов в производстве электрического и электронного оборудования (RoHS).

Новый материал приблизительно на четыре процента легче традиционных материалов, используемых в автомобилестроении, и позволяет увеличить выход продукции из единицы сырья, обеспечивая при этом эффективность системных затрат (Таблица 1).

Компаунд	Модуль упругости (фунт./кв. дюйм)
Unigard™ RE HFDA-1492 NT	13000=
Компаунд промышленного назначения для автомобилестроения	18600

▲ Таблица 1.

Время подвулканизации	Компаунд промышленного назначения для автомобилестроения	Unigard™ RE HFDA-1492 NT
T _{подв.} (1) при 130 °C	49	74
T _{подв.} (1) при 135 °C	подвулканизация	48

▲ Таблица 2.

HFDA-1492 NT разработан для выпуска кабелей, обладающих большей гибкостью, меньшим весом и повышенным сопротивлением обесцвечиванию, имеет низкий удельный вес, равный 1,35, что позволяет снизить расход компаунда на единицу длины кабеля и увеличить производительность существующих технологических линий на предприятиях заказчиков на 20-50 %.

Кроме того, новая изоляция имеет низкую склонность к подвулканизации, уменьшая возможный ущерб для оборудования при его переналадке и низком давлении в экструзионной головке.

Технологические данные

Широкий интервал температур экструдирования (от 105 °C до 135 °C) также допускает возможно сть увеличения производительности технологических линий. Компаунд HFDA-1492 NT легко экструдирован на существующем оборудовании. Рекомендуется использование экструзионной головки соответствующего размера с короткой внутренней поверхностью или с двойным конусом (Таблица 2).

В настоящее время рецептура выпускаемых компаундов соответствует требованиям североамериканских стандартов, однако эта линейка высокотермостойких компаундов будет расширяться, чтобы удовлетворить потребности заказчиков и из других регионов. Например, компании «Дуо уайр энд кейбл» хорошо известны потребности данного сегмента рынка в Европе, и она разрабатывает и испытывает облученные полимеры следующего поколения по спецификации T3 и другим региональным стандартам. ■

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Le tout-dernier testeur de Zwick

Les ressorts de précision sont utilisés dans les assemblages électromécaniques pour les secteurs automobile, de la défense et aérospatial ainsi que dans le sport et les activités du temps libre. En fonction de l'application, des échantillons sont essayés au hasard après la fabrication ou, dans certains cas, il est nécessaire d'effectuer un essai complet.

Zwick a présenté à wire 2008 un testeur à ressort de compression conçu pour la mesure de haute précision de ressorts de 1 à 2500N. Le dispositif présente également d'excellentes caractéristiques technologiques générales qui dépassent même les spécifications de la norme EN 7500.

Le testeur à ressorts de compression est utilisé avec la machine d'essai de matériaux à une colonne dénommée zwicki, associée à l'électronique testControl. Le dispositif présente une extrême rigidité verticale et latérale et est fourni équipé d'une cellule dynamométrique de précision. La protection contre les surcharges évite tout dommage éventuel à la cellule dynamométrique au cas où cette dernière se bloquerait accidentellement.

Les guides de précision ne permettent que le mouvement vertical des plaques de compression. La cellule dynamométrique est extrêmement rigide et insensible aux forces transversales, en permettant ainsi de réduire au maximum les erreurs de mesure dues à l'élasticité sous charge ou à des forces excentriques.

L'instrument est conçu pour la mesure indirecte de la longueur du ressort et offre un niveau de précision très élevé, la déformation axiale minimale pouvant être compensée électroniquement en temps réel.

L'instrument peut être équipé d'une protection de sécurité, avec marque CE, et l'on peut utiliser un pivot anti-pliage adapté à la forme géométrique du ressort.

La machine permet d'essayer également des ressorts spécifiques ou des ressorts à tension et des accessoires appropriés. Dans ce cas, les plaques de compression de Zwick peuvent être échangées avec des poignées adéquates.



▲ Machine d'essai à ressorts de Zwick

La société a développé des programmes spécifiques du logiciel d'essai testXpert® pour répondre aux exigences des activités de contrôle de la production ou d'inspection finale, de recherche et de développement, en rendant la machine d'essai un modèle plus universel.

En utilisant le programme d'essai standard, la majorité des essais requis pour le secteur industriel peuvent être réalisés rapidement et sans aucune adaptation du logiciel.

Les programmes de Zwick sont développés avec des options d'échange de données intégrées pour des bases de données ODBC, qui permettent d'intégrer aisément les machines d'essai pour les ressorts dans l'infrastructure IT de la société existant déjà.

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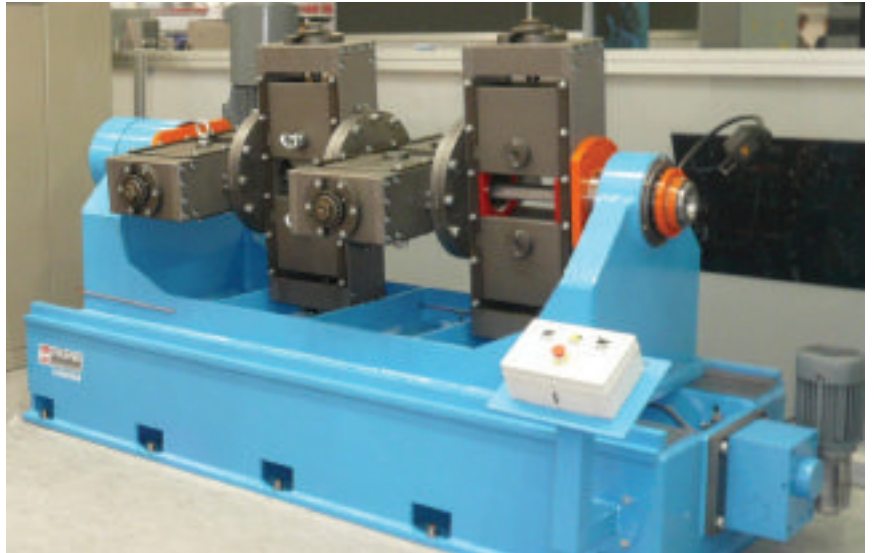
Fourniture de machines tournantes Pourtier à ABB

Pourtier - Gauder Group a remporté une commande pour un projet pour la société ABB HV Cables en Suède.

La société ABB spécialisée dans la fabrication de câbles depuis plus de 120 ans, possède une longue tradition dans le secteur de la haute tension, spécialement en ce qui concerne les câbles souterrains XLPE et les câbles sous-marins HVDC. Le défi consiste en une ligne de toronnage et en une ligne de blindage pour la fabrication de câbles de puissance de grand diamètre.

La ligne de toronnage pour cages rigides à 128 fils est composée de 5 cages (12+18+24+30+36) et est spécifiquement conçue pour la production de conducteurs circulaires avec fil à section profilée et des conducteurs à noyau segmenté précédemment tordu en spirale pour câbles de haute tension et extra-haute tension.

Ce résultat est obtenu en utilisant une nouvelle tête "jumbo" de pré-torsion en spirale et de compactage équipée de quatre paires de rouleaux de 300mm de diamètre, et d'un cabestan à double roue d'un diamètre de 4m avec une force de traction de 40 tonnes.



▲ ABB a acquis sa première ligne d'assembleuses à réception tournante Pourtier Milliken il y a 15 ans

En outre, ABB étant à la recherche d'un système de chargement sûr, Pourtier a développé un système robotique automatique latéral en mesure de gérer une étagère complète sans charger ni décharger les bobines une à la fois.

La deuxième partie du projet consiste en une ligne de blindage à cages rigides.

Pourtier - Grupo Gauder - France

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Nexans fournit les câbles d'éclairage de pistes pour l'aéroport international d'Abou Dhabi

Nexans a complété l'installation des câbles d'éclairage de pistes pour la phase 2 du projet d'expansion de l'aéroport international d'Abou Dhabi.

Le projet portait sur 1 900km de câbles primaires de 5kV (FAA L-824C) alimentant des transformateurs d'éclairage et 770km de câbles secondaires H07FN-F reliant les transformateurs au système d'éclairage des pistes.

Nexans a fourni les câbles à Crouse Hinds, spécialiste américain de l'éclairage, chargé de leur pose.

Le contrat de 12 mois, d'un montant évalué à environ 2,6 millions d'euros, a démarré en mai 2007.

Nexans a remporté ce contrat grâce à la conformité de ses câbles (fabriqués dans l'établissement Nexans de Lyon) avec l'ensemble des normes internationales applicables dans les zones aéroportuaires et à une offre tarifaire compétitive.

Le nouveau terminal géant sera à même de prendre en charge 20 millions de passagers par an dans un premier temps et, par la suite, à mesure qu'Abou Dhabi s'affirmera comme une plate-forme de transport majeure au Moyen Orient, jusqu'à 50 millions de passagers par an.

Le projet devrait fournir une base d'attache pour la compagnie nationale des Emirats, Etihad Airways.

Outre les câbles d'éclairage de pistes fournis à l'aéroport international d'Abou Dhabi, Nexans a conçu une gamme étendue de câbles, systèmes de câblage et accessoires destinés au marché exigeant des plates-formes aéroportuaires.

Nexans - France

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Fullstage distribuera les machines à plier et à cambrer les fils de Taihei

Fullstage Technologies, distributeur de plieuses pour tubes CNC de première qualité, réalisées au Japon et à Taiwan, est fière d'annoncer d'être sur le point d'offrir des plieuses pour fil CNC équipées de 11 axes.

Fullstage a acquis les droits pour la distribution des équipements fabriqués par Taihei Osaka, société leader dans le marché de l'industrie japonaise des machines à plier et à cambrer les fils.

Taihei est connue pour le développement et la production de machines haute qualité utilisées dans différentes applications. Taihei fournit ses machines aux secteurs industriels suivants: automobile, électrique, des semi-conducteurs et de la construction.



▲ Équipements de pliage mis à disposition par Fullstage

Fullstage Technologies assumera la vente exclusive et la responsabilité des services d'assistance des équipements de Taihei en Europe, Turquie, Moyen Orient et Afrique.

Fullstage Technologies – Allemagne
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Website: www.fullstage-technologies.com

Nouvelles brochures commerciales

Maschinenfabrik Niehoff a réalisé une nouvelle série de brochures commerciales.

La société Niehoff est constamment engagée à modifier et à étendre sa gamme de produits. Parallèlement à ces nouveaux développements, il a été nécessaire de présenter l'entière gamme de produits et de services dans un format plus approprié. Par conséquent il a été décidé de mettre à jour et de redessiner la totalité de la collection des matériaux des produits Niehoff.

Présentées de façon plus ordonnée, les nouvelles brochures ont été imprimées dans un format standard et comprennent des photographies des produits accompagnées de données techniques détaillées.

Les nouvelles brochures sont imprimées en anglais, allemand et russe. Les copies sont disponibles chez Niehoff, dans les filiales, les distributeurs et auprès des services d'assistance ou bien sur Internet.

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AMSC a signé quatre commandes de D-VAR® pour des centrales éoliennes

American Superconductor Corporation (AMSC) a remporté des commandes pour sa solution d'interconnexion D-VAR® avec les réseaux électriques des centrales éoliennes en Australie, au Canada et au Royaume-Uni.

Les systèmes D-VAR, qui fournissent la tension pour plus de 200 megawatts (MW) d'énergie agrégée, seront livrés aux quatre centrales éoliennes au cours des 12 prochains mois. Actuellement AMSC possède une base installée et des commandes pour des solutions fournissant environ 7 350MW d'énergie éolienne de par le monde, avec une augmentation de plus de 120% durant les 12 derniers mois.

Les systèmes brevetés D-VAR de AMSC permettent aux développeurs de centrales éoliennes de se conformer aux normes internationales et locales adoptées dans de nombreux pays pour la connexion des centrales éoliennes aux réseaux électriques.

Les clients de AMSC utilisent les solutions D-VAR d'interconnexion au réseau électrique pour le réglage de la tension et l'égalisation ainsi que pour l'assistance successive à une panne pour éviter toutes chutes éventuelles de tension sur le réseau électrique.

"Nos solutions D-VAR sont utilisées dans le monde entier pour connecter de façon fiable les centrales éoliennes aux réseaux électriques", a déclaré Chuck Stankiewicz, vice-président exécutif et directeur général de AMSC Power Systems. "Ces solutions atténuent l'instabilité de tension dans les centrales éoliennes de manière à ce que les propriétaires et les opérateurs des centrales éoliennes puissent répondre aux exigences d'interconnexion de réseau qui diffèrent considérablement dans les différentes parties du globe.

"Cela assure la qualité de l'énergie fournie aux clients et dans plusieurs cas améliore la fiabilité du réseau électrique local."

La capacité d'énergie éolienne mondiale est augmentée de 27% en 2007 en arrivant jusqu'à plus de 94 gigawatts (GW), d'après un rapport du GWEC (Global Wind Energy Council) émis en avril dernier. Le marché d'énergie éolienne, d'après le rapport, devrait augmenter de 155% (jusqu'à 240GW) de la puissance totale installée en 2012.

American Superconductor (AMSC) – États-Unis
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Nouvelles solutions de fil et câble pour environnements à températures élevées

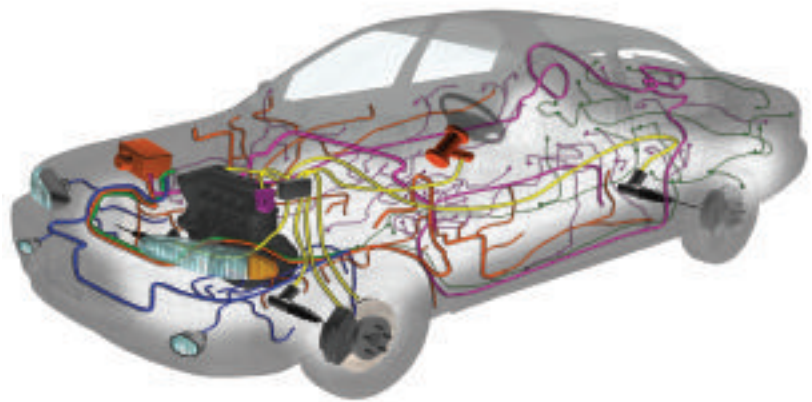
Par Kurt Bolz, Responsable du secteur Technologie des Applications Ignifuges, Dow Wire & Cable; Peter Dreux, Ph D, Spécialiste ancien dans le Développement de Nouvelles Activités, Dow Wire & Cable; et Erik Groot-Enzerink, Spécialiste ancien de Développement, Dow Wire & Cable

Les environnements à températures élevées comme ceux qui se trouvent dans les applications du secteur des équipements ménagers et automobiles, offrent un grand nombre de défis aux formulateurs de composés ainsi qu'aux producteurs de fils et de câbles. Il est évident que la tolérance à la température représente un facteur clé pour les performances des composés résistant aux températures élevées. Il y a toutefois de nombreuses autres considérations importantes, parmi lesquelles les perfectionnements des processus dans les pratiques de production existant déjà, les tolérances environnementales, la facilité d'installation et une longue durée de service dans l'application de l'utilisation finale.

Grâce aux informations détaillées fournies par les clients de la chaîne de valeur, les ingénieurs et les responsables de marché de Dow Wire & Cable ont relevé une exigence généralisée de solutions convenables aux environnements caractérisés par des températures élevées. La réponse à cette exigence est représentée par le composé ignifuge Unigard™ RE HFDA-1492 NT à émissions réduites, résistant à des températures jusqu'à 125°, offrant des avantages supplémentaires importants tout en respectant les spécifications industrielles et du marché d'utilisation finale.

Les exigences du client

Le marché automobile global représente un exemple satisfaisant de l'évolution des secteurs d'application des fils et des câbles résistant aux températures élevées. Des systèmes modulaires avancés pour la navigation au divertissement, aux portes, aux fenêtres et aux serrures automatiques, grâce à ces systèmes électroniques de bord en expansion constante, l'utilisation des fils et des câbles est en plein essor. Surtout dans les applications "under the hood" (sous le capot), les nouvelles solutions non seulement ne doivent pas supporter



▲ Le marché automobile global représente un exemple satisfaisant de l'évolution des secteurs d'application des fils et des câbles résistant aux températures élevées

les propriétés physiques nécessaires pour conférer résistance aux températures élevées, mais elles doivent également être compatibles avec le processus de fabrication et d'assemblage du véhicule et réduire le poids et les coûts.

En ce qui concerne d'autres secteurs tels que la fabrication des équipements électroménagers, des caractéristiques similaires telles que la résistance, la flexibilité, la stabilité de la couleur et la résistance aux fluides s'associent aux spécifications de tolérance aux températures élevées.

Avantages environnementaux

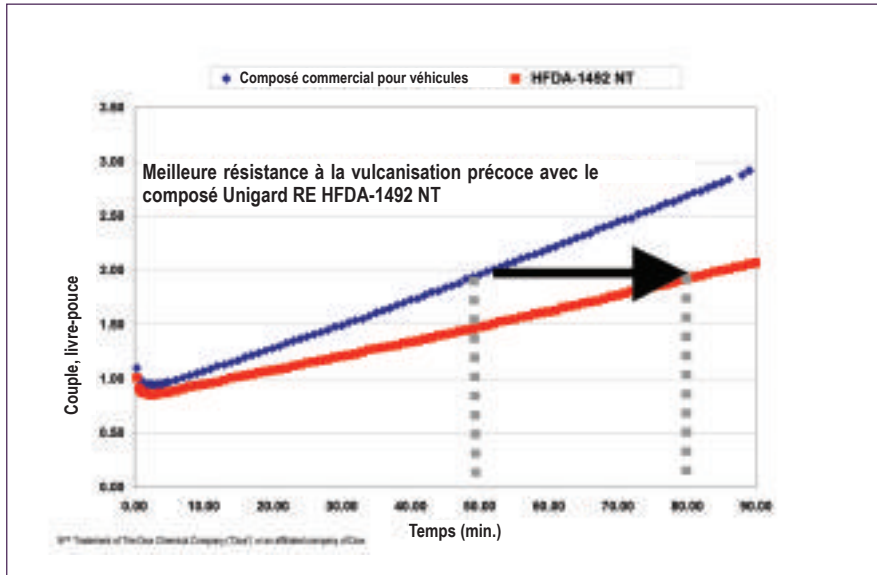
Outre accorder son attention aux performances, Dow Wire & Cable s'occupe du développement de solutions compatibles avec les objectifs de soutenabilité environnementale. Généralement, dans la totalité des secteurs industriels, les articles en plastique utilisés dans des espaces fermés doivent posséder des propriétés ignifuges pour résister à la combustion. Bien que, traditionnellement, on utilise les composés ignifuges

halogénés et non-halogénés (HFFR), il y a une tendance générale à utiliser des composés sans halogène (HFFR) étant donné leur émission de fumées, toxicité et corrosivité inférieures et compte tenu de leur obsolescence et le recyclage des articles finis.

Généralement, les formulations HFFR ou les composés à faible émission de fumées et sans halogène (LSOH), tels que les composés qui conviennent aux environnements à hautes températures, exigent une quantité élevée d'additifs qui influencent significativement les propriétés mécaniques et l'ouvrabilité.

Cela pose des défis extraordinaires en ce qui concerne le développement du matériau, spécialement dans les secteurs où, traditionnellement, les composés ignifuges halogénés ont été utilisés de façon limitée (par exemple le PVC ou le polychlorure de vinyle) pour répondre aux exigences de résistance à la flamme.

Le nouveau composé résistant aux températures élevées Unigard mis au point par Dow Wire & Cable est conforme à ces spécifications environnementales et législatives importantes en offrant des



performances similaires à celles du PVC ainsi que les avantages du composé LSOH à un coût compétitif.

Spécifications

Le composé Unigard™ RE HFDA-1492 NT FR à faibles émissions de fumée est conforme aux normes de l'industrie automobile SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) pour les applications automobiles et aux spécifications d'Underwriters Laboratories Inc (UL) en ce qui concerne les câblages des équipements électroménagers.

Spécifications pour câblages d'équipements électroménagers:

- Approbation pour les matériaux de câblage des équipements électroménagers (AWM ou Appliance Wiring Material)
- UL 44 SIS
- UL 758 AWM style 3173 pour 125°C Spécifications classe 38

Spécifications pour fil pour le secteur automobile (applications "sous le capot" à 125°):

- SAE J-1128 câble primaire
- SAE J-1127 câble pour batteries
- Nombreuses normes de fabricants au niveau global

Propriétés physiques

HFDA-1492 NT ist ein färbbares, Le composé HFDA-1492 NT est un composé isolant à base de copolymère de polyéthylène, colorable, réticulable au peroxyde, conforme à la directive RoHS (relative à la limitation de l'utilisation de certaines substances dangereuses).

Le nouveau matériau pèse environ 4% de moins par rapport aux matériaux traditionnels utilisés pour les applications dans le secteur automobile et permet un rendement plus élevé par livre en offrant des avantages du point de vue économique (Tableau 1).

Composé	Module de flexion (psi)
UNIGARD RE HFDA-1492 NT	13000=
Composé commercial pour véhicules	18600

▲ Tableau 1

Temps de vulcanisation précoce	Composé commercial pour véhicules	UNIGARD™ RE HFDA-1492 NT
Ts1 @130°C (min)	49	74
Ts1 @135°C (min)	vulcanisation précoce	48

▲ Tableau 2

Conçu pour offrir des câbles plus flexibles et plus légers caractérisés par une meilleure rétention de couleur, le composé HFDA-1492 NT présente également un poids spécifique réduit égal à 1,35 qui contribue à réduire la consommation du composé par longueur de câble, et une amélioration de 20 à 50% dans la vitesse de ligne sur les équipements existant déjà des clients.

Le nouvel isolement est également caractérisé par une vulcanisation précoce pour une majeure protection en cas de changements et de pression de refoulement réduite.

Données de processus

Une ample fenêtre de processus (de 105°C à 135°C) supporte également des performances de ligne potentiellement supérieures. Le composé HFDA-1492 NT peut être extrudé facilement en utilisant l'équipement existant déjà. Il est recommandé d'utiliser une matrice avec une pression adéquate, avec une lèvre de filière courte ou une conicité double (Tableau 2).

Actuellement disponible sous forme de formulations conformes aux spécifications nord-américaines, cette famille de composés pour températures élevées continuera à s'étendre pour répondre aux exigences des clients dans d'autres régions. En Europe, par exemple, la société Dow Wire & Cable connaît à fond les nécessités de ce segment de marché et développe et teste actuellement des solutions irradiées de prochaine génération pour la T3 et d'autres spécifications au niveau régional. ■

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Il recente tester di Zwick

Le molle di precisione si utilizzano negli assemblaggi elettromeccanici per il settore automobilistico, della difesa ed aerospaziale, e nelle attività sportive e del tempo libero.

Secondo l'applicazione, vengono testati dei campioni a caso dopo la fabbricazione o, in alcuni casi, è necessario effettuare un test completo.

In occasione di wire 2008 Zwick ha presentato un tester per molle di compressione per un'accuratissima misurazione di molle di precisione da 1 a 2500N. Il dispositivo presenta ottime caratteristiche generali da un punto di vista della tecnologia della misurazione, caratteristiche che superano persino i requisiti della norma EN 7500.

Il tester per molle di compressione si utilizza con la macchina di prova di materiali ad una colonna denominata zwicki, associata all'elettronica testControl.

Il dispositivo presenta un'estrema rigidità verticale e laterale ed è fornito equipaggiato con una cella di carico di precisione. La protezione di sovraccarico evita danneggiamenti alla cella di carico in caso questa vada accidentalmente in blocco.

Le guide di precisione consentono solamente il movimento verticale di piastre di compressione. La cella di carico brevettata è estremamente rigida e insensibile a forze trasversali, permettendo di ridurre al massimo gli errori di misurazione dovuti all'elasticità sotto carico o a forze eccentriche.

Lo strumento è progettato per la misurazione indiretta della lunghezza della molla, ed offre un elevatissimo livello di precisione poiché la minima deformazione assiale può essere compensata elettronicamente in tempo reale.

La misurazione diretta è disponibile come opzione ed è raccomandata per prove di alta precisione di molle molto piccole.

Lo strumento può essere equipaggiato con una protezione di sicurezza, con marchio CE, e si può utilizzare un perno contro la piegatura adattato alla forma



▲ Macchina di prova per molle di Zwick

geometrica della molla. La macchina consente di testare anche molle speciali o molle di tensione utilizzando utensili ed accessori appropriati e, in questo caso, le piastre di compressione di Zwick possono essere scambiate con pinze adeguate.

La società ha sviluppato programmi specifici dal software di prova testXpert® per soddisfare le esigenze delle attività di controllo della produzione e di ispezione finale, di ricerca e sviluppo, rendendo la macchina di prova un modello più

universale. Utilizzando il programma di prova standard per prove di controllo qualità, la maggior parte delle prove richieste per il settore industriale possono essere realizzate rapidamente e senza alcun adattamento del software. Con un programma di prova master, si possono effettuare inoltre prove cicliche.

Zwick GmbH & Co KG – Germania
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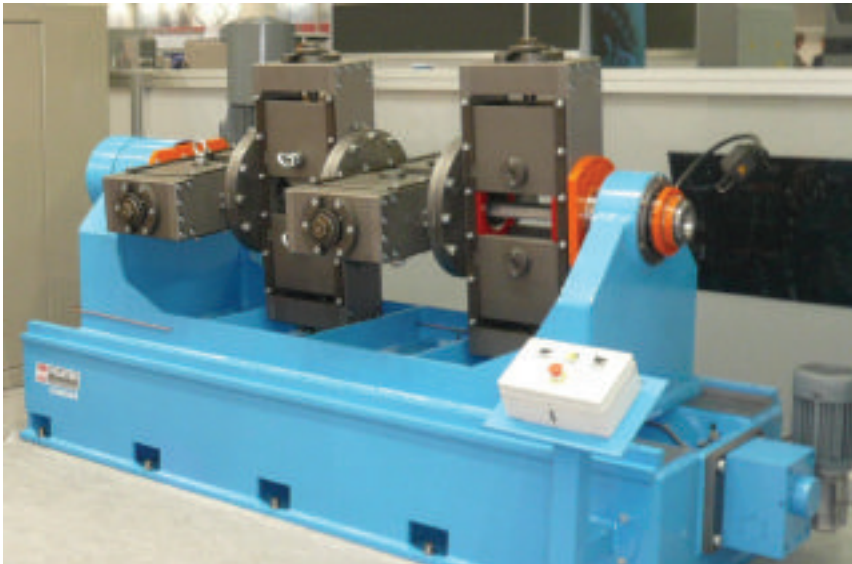
Fornitura di macchine rotanti Pourtier ad ABB

La società Pourtier-Gauder Group si è aggiudicata un ordine per un progetto per ABB HV Cables in Svezia

La società ABB che fabbrica cavi da oltre 120 anni, vanta una lunga tradizione nel settore dell'alta tensione, specialmente per quanto riguarda i cavi sotterranei XLPE ed i cavi sottomarini HVDC. La sfida consiste in una linea di trefolatura ed una linea di schermatura per la fabbricazione di cavi di potenza con diametri molto elevati.

La linea di trefolatura di gabbie rigide da 128 fili è composta da 5 gabbie ed è specificamente progettata per la produzione di conduttori circolari con filo a sezione profilata e conduttori a nucleo segmentato precedentemente attorcigliati a spirale per cavi di alta tensione ed extra-alta tensione. Tale risultato si raggiunge utilizzando una nuova testa "jumbo" di pre-attorcigliatura a spirale e di compattazione dotata di quattro paia di rulli del diametro di 300mm, e di un cabestano con doppia ruota del diametro di 4m con una forza di trazione di 40 tonnellate.

Inoltre poiché ABB era alla ricerca di un sistema di caricamento sicuro, Pourtier



▲ ABB ha acquistato la sua prima linea di torcitori a tamburo Pourtier Milliken 15 anni fa

ha sviluppato un sistema robotico automatico laterale che gestisce una rastrelliera completa senza caricare o scaricare le bobine una alla volta.

La seconda parte del progetto è costituita da una linea di schermatura a gabbie rigide; 84 fili costituiti da due gabbie

di 42 bobine (6 file di 7 bobine). La linea è equipaggiata con due caricatori completamente automatici.

Pourtier - Grupo Gauder - Francia

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Nexans fornisce cavi di illuminazione per il campo di atterraggio dell'Aeroporto Internazionale di Abu Dhabi

Nexans ha completato l'installazione dei cavi di illuminazione per la superficie aeroportuale relativa alla fase 2 del progetto di espansione dell'Aeroporto Internazionale di Abu Dhabi. Il progetto prevede la fornitura di 1.900km di cavi primari da 5kV (FAA L-824C) per l'alimentazione dei trasformatori per illuminazione e 770km di cavi secondari H07FN-F per il collegamento dei trasformatori al sistema di illuminazione della superficie aeroportuale.

Nexans ha fornito i cavi a Crouse Hinds, società americana specializzata nel settore dell'illuminazione, incaricata della relativa installazione. Il contratto di 12 mesi, per un ammontare stimato intorno a 2,6 milioni di euro, è stato avviato nel maggio 2007.

La società Nexans si è aggiudicata questo contratto grazie alla conformità di questi cavi (fabbricati nello stabilimento Nexans di Lione) con le corrispondenti norme internazionali applicabili nelle zone aeroportuali e ad un prezzo competitivo.

Il nuovo mega-terminale sarà in grado di prendere in carico 20 milioni di passeggeri l'anno in un primo tempo e, successivamente, a mano a mano che Abu Dhabi si affermerà come maggiore piattaforma di trasporto nel Medio Oriente, fino a 50 milioni di passeggeri l'anno.

Il progetto fornirà una base di atterraggio di prima qualità per la compagnia nazionale degli Emirati Arabi, Etihad Airways.

Oltre ai cavi di illuminazione per la superficie aeroportuale dell'Aeroporto Internazionale di Abu Dhabi, Nexans ha progettato una vasta gamma di cavi, sistemi di cablaggio ed accessori destinati all'esigente mercato delle piattaforme aeroportuali.

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Fullstage distribuirà le piegatrici per fili di Taihei

Fullstage Technologies, distributore di piegatrici per tubi CNC di prima qualità, realizzate in Giappone e a Taiwan, è lieta di annunciare di essere in procinto di offrire piegatrici per filo CNC equipaggiate con 11 assi.

Fullstage ha acquisito i diritti per la distribuzione degli equipaggiamenti di Taihei Osaka, società leader nel mercato dell'industria giapponese delle piegatrici di filo. Fondata nel 1959, Taihei è nota per lo sviluppo e la produzione di macchine di alta qualità utilizzate in varie applicazioni. Taihei fornisce le proprie macchine ai seguenti settori industriali: automobilistico, elettrico, dei semiconduttori e della costruzione.

Ubicata immediatamente fuori Monaco, Fullstage Technologies assumerà la



▲ Equipaggiamenti di piegatura messi a disposizione da Fullstage

vendita esclusiva e le responsabilità dei servizi di assistenza degli equipaggiamenti di Taihei in Europa (inclusi gli ex-membri del CIS), Turchia, Medio Oriente ed Africa.

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Nuovi opuscoli commerciali

Maschinenfabrik Niehoff ha prodotto una serie completamente nuova di opuscoli commerciali.

La società Niehoff è costantemente impegnata a modificare e ad espandere la propria gamma di prodotti. Parallelamente a questi sviluppi, è stato necessario presentare l'intera gamma di prodotti e servizi in un formato più appropriato. Si è pertanto deciso di aggiornare e ridisegnare l'intera collezione di materiali dei prodotti.

I nuovi volantini in veste più organizzata sono stati stampati in un formato standard e comprendono fotografie dei prodotti corredate da dati tecnici dettagliati. Le caratteristiche essenziali di ciascun prodotto appaiono evidenziate.

I nuovi opuscoli sono stampati in lingua inglese, tedesca e russa. Le copie sono disponibili presso la sede di Niehoff, presso le filiali, i distributori ed i servizi di assistenza oppure sul sito Internet.

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AMSC si aggiudica quattro ordini da D-VAR® per centrali eoliche in tre continenti

La società American Superconductor Corporation (AMSC) si è aggiudicata degli ordini per la propria soluzione D-VAR® di interconnessione con le reti elettriche delle centrali eoliche in Australia, Canada e Regno Unito. Le centrali eoliche utilizzeranno i sistemi di energia eolica di tre diversi produttori a livello mondiale di turbine eoliche.

I sistemi D-VAR, che forniscono tensione per oltre 200 megawatt (MW) di energia aggregata, saranno consegnati alle quattro centrali eoliche entro i prossimi 12 mesi. Attualmente AMSC possiede una base installata ed ordini per soluzioni che forniscono circa 7.350MW di energia eolica in tutto il mondo, con un aumento di oltre il 120% negli ultimi 12 mesi.

I sistemi brevettati D-VAR di AMSC consentono ai progettatori di centrali eoliche di conformarsi alle norme nazionali e locali adottate in numerosi paesi per il collegamento delle centrali eoliche alle reti elettriche. I clienti di AMSC utilizzano le soluzioni D-VAR di interconnessione alla rete elettrica per la regolazione della tensione e l'equalizzazione nonché per l'assistenza successiva ad un guasto per evitare cadute di tensione sulla rete elettrica.

“Le nostre soluzioni D-VAR sono utilizzate in tutto il mondo per collegare in modo affidabile le centrali eoliche alle reti elettriche”, ha dichiarato Chuck Stankiewicz, vice-presidente esecutivo e direttore generale di AMSC Power Systems.

“Queste soluzioni attenuano l'instabilità di tensione nelle centrali eoliche affinché i proprietari e gli operatori delle centrali eoliche possano soddisfare i requisiti di interconnessione di rete che differiscono notevolmente nelle varie parti del mondo. Ciò assicura la qualità dell'energia fornita ai clienti e in molti casi migliora l'affidabilità della rete elettrica locale.”

La capacità di energia eolica mondiale è aumentata del 27% nel 2007 arrivando ad oltre 94 gigawatt (GW), secondo un rapporto del GWEC (Global Wind Energy Council) emesso nell'aprile 2008. Il mercato di energia eolica, secondo il rapporto, dovrebbe crescere oltre il 155% (fino a 240GW) della capacità totale installata nel 2012.

American Superconductor (AMSC) – Stati Uniti
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Nuove soluzioni di filo e cavi per ambienti a temperature elevate

A cura di Kurt Bolz, Responsabile del settore della Tecnologia delle Applicazioni Ignifughe, Dow Wire & Cable; Peter Dreux, Ph D, Specialista senior nello Sviluppo di Nuove Attività, Dow Wire & Cable; ed Erik Groot-Enzerink, Specialista senior di Sviluppo, Dow Wire & Cable

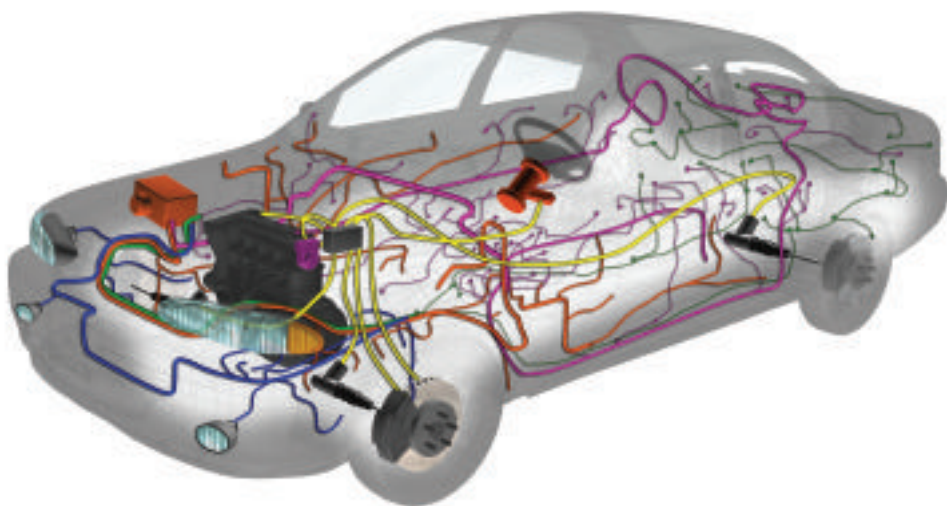
Gli ambienti a temperature elevate, come quelli che caratterizzano le applicazioni del settore degli elettrodomestici ed il settore automobilistico, presentano molte sfide a coloro che progettano composti, nonché ai produttori e agli utilizzatori di filo e cavo. Ovviamente, la tolleranza alla temperatura rappresenta un fattore chiave per le prestazioni dei composti resistenti alle alte temperature. Vi sono tuttavia numerose altre considerazioni importanti, fra cui i perfezionamenti dei processi nelle pratiche di produzione esistenti, le tolleranze ambientali, la facilità d'installazione ed una lunga durata di servizio nell'applicazione dell'utilizzo finale.

Grazie ad informazioni dettagliate fornite da tutti i clienti della catena del valore, gli ingegneri ed i responsabili di mercato di Dow Wire & Cable hanno riscontrato un'esigenza generalizzata di soluzioni che offrirebbero buoni risultati in ambienti a temperature elevate. La risposta a tale esigenza è rappresentata dal composto ignifugo Unigard™ RE HFDA-1492 NT ad emissioni ridotte, resistente a temperature fino a 125°, che offre importanti benefici aggiuntivi nel rispetto delle specifiche industriali e del mercato di utilizzo finale.

Le esigenze del cliente

Il mercato automobilistico globale rappresenta un buon esempio dell'evoluzione delle aree di applicazione dei fili e cavi resistenti alle temperature elevate. Dai sistemi modulari avanzati per la navigazione all'intrattenimento e alle porte, finestre e chiusure automatiche, questi sistemi elettronici di bordo in continua espansione, stanno incrementando l'utilizzo di fili e cavi.

Soprattutto nelle applicazioni interne al sistema, le nuove soluzioni non solo devono supportare le proprietà fisiche necessarie a conferire resistenza a temperature elevate, ma devono anche essere compatibili con il processo di



▲ Il mercato automobilistico globale rappresenta un buon esempio dell'evoluzione delle aree di applicazione dei fili e cavi resistenti alle temperature elevate.

fabbricazione ed assemblaggio del veicolo, nonché ridurre il peso ed i costi.

Per altri settori quali la fabbricazione di elettrodomestici, caratteristiche di prestazione simili quali la resistenza, la flessibilità, la stabilità del colore e la resistenza ai fluidi si associano ai requisiti di tolleranza alle temperature elevate.

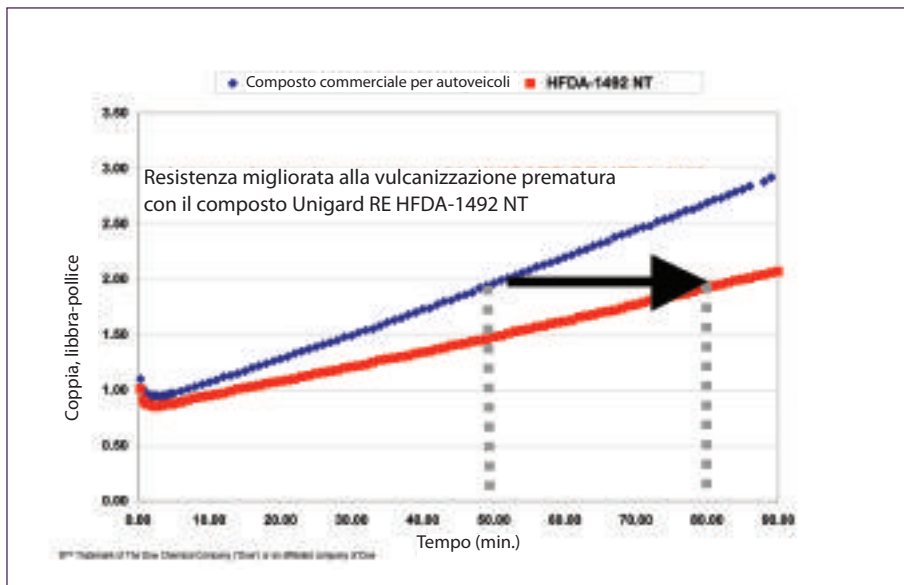
Benefici ambientali

Oltre che rivolgere l'attenzione alle prestazioni, Dow Wire & Cable si occupa dello sviluppo di soluzioni compatibili con gli obiettivi di sostenibilità ambientale. Generalmente, in tutti i settori industriali, gli articoli in plastica utilizzati in spazi chiusi devono possedere proprietà ignifughe per fornire resistenza alla combustione. Sebbene tradizionalmente vengano utilizzati i composti ignifughi alogenati e non alogenati (HFFR), vi è una tendenza generale ad utilizzare composti

senza alogeno (HFFR) data la minore emissione di fumi, tossicità e corrosività senza dimenticare l'obsolescenza ed il riciclo degli articoli finiti.

Generalmente, le formulazioni HFFR od i composti a base di poliolefine a bassa emissione di fumi e privi di alogeno (LSOH), quali i composti adatti ad ambienti a temperature elevate, richiedono normalmente un'alta quantità di additivi che influiscono in modo significativo sia sulle proprietà meccaniche sia sulla lavorabilità. Ciò pone delle sfide straordinarie per quanto riguarda lo sviluppo del materiale, specialmente in settori in cui, storicamente, si è fatto un uso limitato di composti ignifughi alogenati (ad esempio il PVC o il policloruro di vinile) per rispondere ai requisiti di resistenza alla fiamma.

Il nuovo composto resistente ad alte temperature Unigard messo a punto da Dow Wire & Cable soddisfa questi importanti requisiti ambientali e legislativi



offrendo prestazioni simili a quelle del PVC con i vantaggi del composto LSOH ad un costo competitivo.

Specifiche

Il composto Unigard™ RE HFDA-1492 NT FR ad emissioni ridotte di fumo è conforme alle norme dell'industria automobilistica SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) per applicazioni automobilistiche e alle specifiche di Underwriters Laboratories Inc (UL) per quanto riguarda i cablaggi di elettrodomestici.

Specifiche per cablaggi di elettrodomestici:

- Approvazione per materiali per cablaggi di elettrodomestici (AWM o Appliance Wiring Material)
- UL 44 SIS
- UL 758 AWM style 3173 per 125°C
- Specifiche classe 38

Specifiche per filo per il settore automobilistico (applicazioni interne al sistema a 125°):

- SAE J-1128 cavo primario
- SAE J-1127 cavo per batteria
- Numerose norme di fabbricanti a livello mondiale

Proprietà fisiche

Il composto HFDA-1492 NT è un composto isolante a base di copolimero di polietilene, colorabile, reticolabile al perossido, conforme alla direttiva RoHS (relativa alla restrizione di sostanze pericolose).

Il nuovo materiale è circa il 4% più leggero rispetto ai materiali tradizionali utilizzati per applicazioni nel settore automobilistico e consente un rendimento più elevato per libbra offrendo vantaggi dal punto di vista economico per il sistema (Tabella 1).

Composto	Modulo di flessione (psi)
UNIGARD RE HFDA-1492 NT	13000=
Composto commerciale per autoveicoli	18600

▲ Tabella 1

Tempo di vulcanizzazione prematura	Composto commerciale per autoveicoli	UNIGARD™ RE HFDA-1492 NT
Ts1 @130°C (min)	49	74
Ts1 @135°C (min)	vulcanizzazione prematura	48

▲ Tabella 2

Progettato per offrire cavi più flessibili e più leggeri caratterizzati da una migliore ritenzione del colore, il composto HFDA-1492 NT presenta inoltre un basso peso specifico pari a 1,35 che contribuisce a ridurre il consumo del composto per lunghezza del cavo, ed un miglioramento dal 20 al 50% nella velocità di linea sugli equipaggiamenti esistenti dei clienti.

Il nuovo isolamento offre inoltre una ridotta vulcanizzazione prematura per una maggiore protezione in caso di cambi e di bassa pressione di testa.

Dati di processo

Un'ampia finestra di elaborazione (da 105°C a 135°C) supporta inoltre prestazioni di linea potenzialmente superiori. Il composto HFDA-1492 NT si può estrarre facilmente utilizzando l'equipaggiamento esistente. Si raccomanda di utilizzare una matrice con pressione adeguata con canale di labbra corto o doppia conicità (Tabella 2).

Attualmente disponibile in formulazioni conformi alle specifiche Nordamericane, questa famiglia di composti per alte temperature continuerà ad espandersi per rispondere alle esigenze dei clienti in altre regioni. In Europa, ad esempio, la società Dow Wire & Cable conosce molto bene le necessità di questo segmento di mercato e sta sviluppando e collaudando soluzioni irradiate di prossima generazione per la T3 ed altre specifiche a livello regionale. ■

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El último probador de Zwick

Los resortes de precisión se usan en los conjuntos electromecánicos en el sector automotriz, de defensa y aeroespacial, y en actividades deportivas y de ocio. Según la aplicación, las muestras son probadas al azar después de su fabricación. Sin embargo, en algunos casos es necesario probarlas todas.

Zwick ha presentado en wire 2008 un probador de resortes de compresión para medir con gran precisión resortes de precisión de 1 a 2500N. El dispositivo se caracteriza por su excelente capacidad tecnológica de medida, que supera incluso los requisitos de la norma EN 7500.

El probador de resortes de compresión es utilizado con la máquina de prueba de materiales de una sola columna zwicki, integrada con electrónica testControl. El dispositivo presenta una extrema rigidez vertical y lateral y está equipado con una celda de carga de precisión. La protección de sobrecarga evita dañar la celda de carga en caso de bloqueos accidentales.

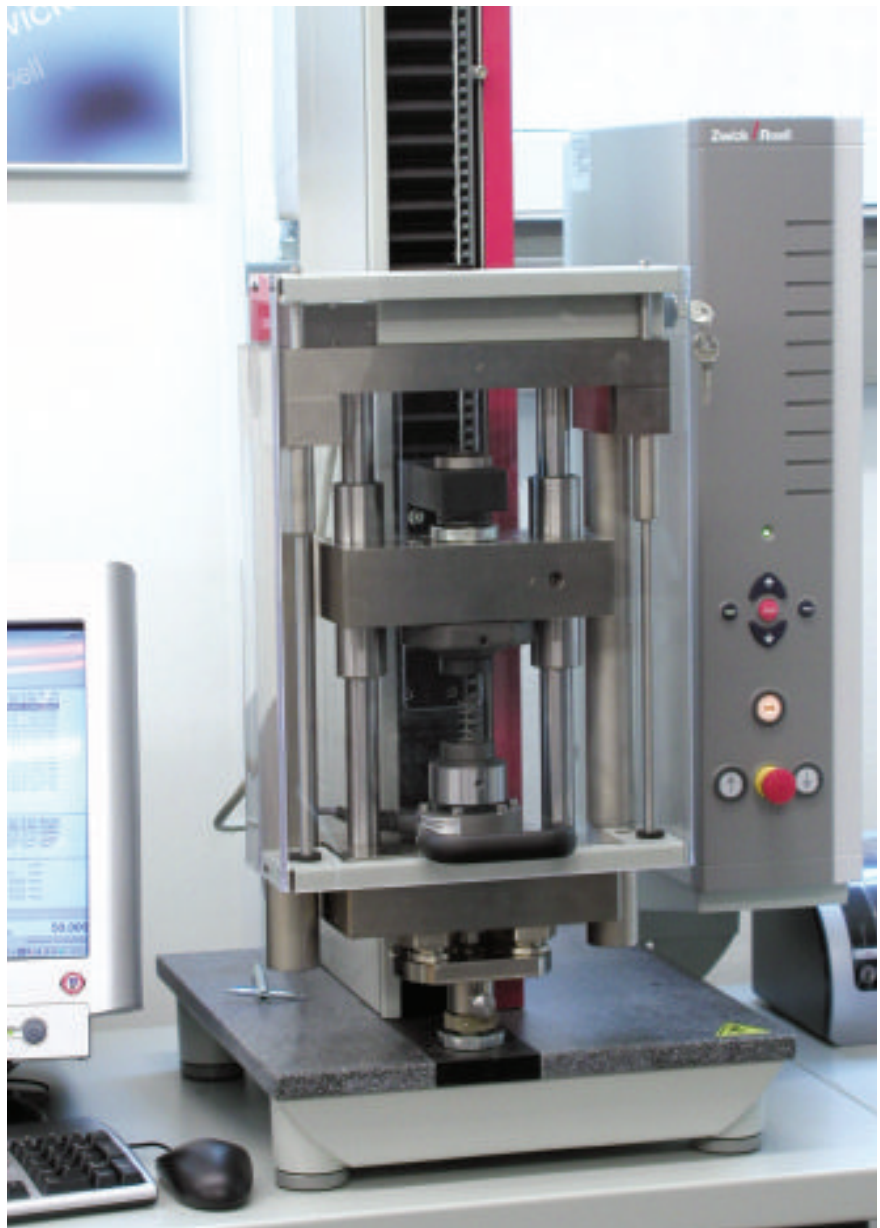
Las guías de precisión permiten a las placas de compresión moverse solamente en vertical. La celda de carga patentada es muy rígida e insensible a fuerzas transversales, permitiendo reducir al mínimo los errores de medición debidos a elasticidad bajo carga o fuerzas excéntricas.

El instrumento está diseñado para medir indirectamente la longitud del resorte, lo cual ofrece un nivel muy alto de precisión porque la deformación axial, que ya de por sí es mínima, puede ser compensada electrónicamente en tiempo real.

El instrumento puede ser equipado con una protección de seguridad conforme a las normas CE, y se puede usar una espiga de guía para evitar el doblado, adecuada a la forma geométrica del resorte.

La máquina permite probar también resortes especiales o resortes de tensión usando herramientas y accesorios apropiados, y, en este caso, las placas de compresión de Zwick pueden ser cambiadas por agarraderas adecuadas.

La compañía ha desarrollado programas especiales a partir del software de



▲ Máquina de prueba de resortes de Zwick

prueba testXpert® para responder a las necesidades de las actividades de control de producción y de inspección final, y de Investigación y Desarrollo, haciendo de esta máquina de prueba un modelo más universal. Usando el programa de prueba estándar para pruebas de control de calidad, la mayor parte de las pruebas requeridas por el sector industrial

pueden ser realizadas rápidamente y sin necesidad de adaptar el software. Con un programa de prueba maestro, se pueden efectuar también pruebas cíclicas.

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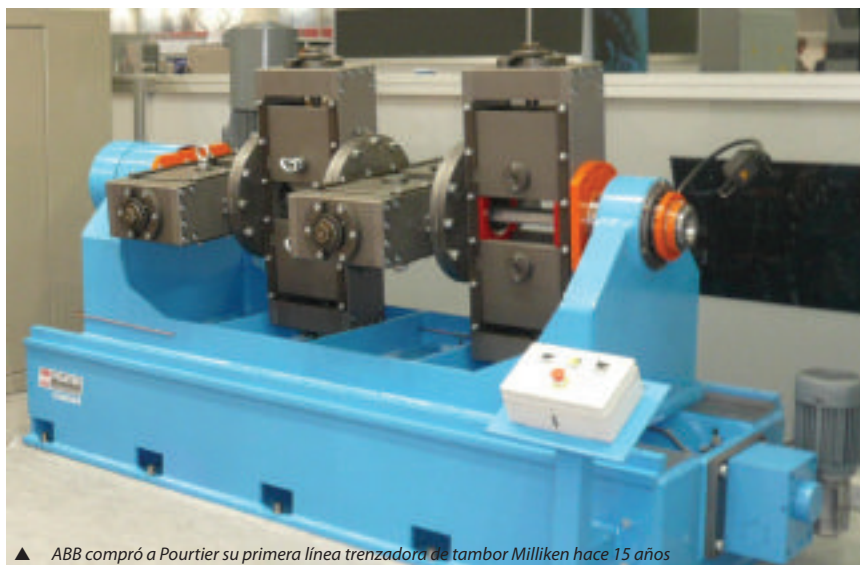
Máquina giratoria Pourtier para ABB

Pourtier, del Grupo Gauder, se ha adjudicado un pedido para un proyecto de ABB HV Cables en Suecia.

ABB, que fabrica cables desde hace más de 120 años, tiene una larga tradición en el campo de la alta tensión, especialmente en cables XLPE subterráneos y HVDC submarinos. El desafío consiste en una línea de trenzado y otra de apantallamiento para producir cables de alimentación de sección muy ancha.

La línea de trenzado de caja rígida para 128 hilos está constituida por 5 cajas (12+18+24+30+36) y está diseñada especialmente para producir conductores de sección redonda con hilo de sección perfilada, además de conductores segmentales precurvados en espiral para cables de alta tensión y extra alta tensión.

El proceso es llevado a cabo con una nueva mega cabeza de precurvado en espiral y compactado con cuatro pares de rodillos de 300mm de diámetro,



▲ ABB compró a Pourtier su primera línea trenzadora de tambor Milliken hace 15 años

además de un cabrestante de dos ruedas de 4m de diámetro con una fuerza de tracción de 40t.

Además, como ABB estaba buscando un sistema de carga seguro, Pourtier ha desarrollado un sistema robotizado automático lateral que maneja todo un bastidor sin cargar ni descargar los carretes uno a uno.

La segunda parte del proyecto es una línea de apantallamiento de cajas rígidas para 84 hilos formada por dos cajas de 42 carretes (6 filas de 7 carretes).

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Nexans suministra los cables para iluminación del aeropuerto internacional de Abu Dhabi

Nexans ha terminado de instalar los cables de la instalación de luz del aeropuerto, objeto de la segunda fase del proyecto de expansión del aeropuerto internacional de Abu Dhabi. El proyecto comprende 1.900Km de cable primario de 5KV, que suministrará energía a los transformadores de la instalación de luz, y 770Km de cable secundario H07FN-F, que conectará los transformadores a las luminarias del aeropuerto.

Nexans suministró los cables para el aeropuerto a Crouse Hinds, especialista en iluminación americano encargado de la instalación del cable. Los trabajos objeto del contrato de 12 meses, valorado en unos 2,6 millones de euros, iniciaron en mayo de 2007.

Nexans consiguió adjudicarse el contrato porque sus cables, fabricados en su planta francesa de Lyon, cumplían todas las especificaciones internacionales requeridas para aplicaciones en aeropuertos, y además resultaban convenientes económicamente.

El nuevo gigantesco terminal tendrá una capacidad inicial para acoger a 20 millones de pasajeros al año, y más adelante, cuando Abu Dhabi se convierta en un nodo de transporte importante en Medio Oriente, a 50 millones de pasajeros al año.

El proyecto facilitará un punto base de alta calidad a Etihad Airways, la compañía aérea nacional de Emiratos Árabes Unidos.

Además de los cables de la instalación de luz del aeropuerto internacional de Abu Dhabi, Nexans ha diseñado una extensa gama de cables, sistemas de cableado y accesorios para el desafiante mercado aeroportuario.

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Fullstage distribuirá las dobladoras de alambre de Taihei

Fullstage Technologies, distribuidor de dobladoras de tubos CNC de primera calidad construidas en Japón y Taiwán, se complace en anunciar que ya está lista para ofrecer dobladoras de alambre CNC DE hasta 11 ejes.

Fullstage ha conseguido los derechos de distribución de equipos fabricados por un líder del mercado de la industria japonesa de doblado de alambre – Taihei Osaka.

Taihei es bien conocida por el desarrollo y la producción de máquinas de alta calidad que se utilizan en varias aplicaciones. Taihei suministra sus máquinas a los sectores de la industria automotriz, eléctrica, de semiconductores y de construcción.

Ubicada justo a las afueras de Munich, Fullstage Technologies se hará cargo



▲ Equipos de doblado disponibles a través de Fullstage

inmediatamente de las ventas exclusivas y las responsabilidades de los servicios de asistencia de los equipos de Taihei en Europa (incluidos los miembros anteriores del CIS), Turquía, Medio Oriente y África.

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Panfletos nuevos

Maschinenfabrik Niehoff ha realizado una serie completamente nueva de panfletos comerciales.

Niehoff modifica y amplía constantemente su gama de productos. Paralelamente a estos avances, ha sido necesario presentar toda la gama de productos y servicios en un formato más apropiado. Así se decidió poner al día y rediseñar la entera colección de materiales de los productos Niehoff.

Los nuevos y bien organizados panfletos están editados en formato estándar e incluyen fotos de los productos acompañadas de datos técnicos detallados. Las características esenciales de cada producto aparecen resaltadas.

Los nuevos panfletos están editados en inglés, alemán y ruso. Para procurarse una copia dirigirse a la sede central de Niehoff, subsidiarias, distribuidores y servicios de asistencia o visitar su página web.

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AMSC recibe cuatro pedidos de D-VAR® para parques eólicos en tres continentes

American Superconductor Corporation ha recibido pedidos para su solución D-VAR® de interconexión con redes eléctricas de parques eólicos en Australia, Canadá y Reino Unido. Los parques eólicos utilizarán los sistemas de energía eólica de tres diferentes productores mundiales de turbinas eólicas.

Los sistemas D-VAR, que suministrarán más de 200 megawattios (MW) de energía agregada, serán entregados a los cuatro parques eólicos dentro de 12 meses. AMSC tiene actualmente una base instalada y pedidos pendientes para soluciones que proporcionarán aproximadamente 7.350MW de energía eólica en todo el mundo, con un aumento de más de un 120% durante los 12 meses pasados.

Los sistemas patentados D-VAR de AMSC permiten a los diseñadores de parques eólicos cumplir los requisitos nacionales y provinciales adoptados en muchos países para conectar los parques eólicos a las redes eléctricas. Los clientes de AMSC utilizan las soluciones D-VAR de interconexión a la red eléctrica para la regulación de la tensión y la corrección del factor de potencia, y para la asistencia después de eventos imprevistos para evitar caídas de tensión en la red eléctrica.

“Nuestras soluciones D-VAR son utilizadas en todo el mundo para conectar los parques eólicos a las redes eléctricas de manera fiable” dijo Chuck Stankiewicz, vicepresidente ejecutivo y director general de AMSC Power Systems. “Estas soluciones reducen las inestabilidades de tensión en los parques eólicos para que los propietarios y los operadores de los parques puedan cumplir los requisitos de interconexión de red que varían significativamente en las diferentes zonas del mundo. Esto asegura la calidad de la energía suministrada a los clientes y en muchos casos mejora la fiabilidad de la red eléctrica local.”

La capacidad de energía eólica mundial ha aumentado de un 27 por ciento en 2007 a más de 94 gigawattios (GW), según un informe de abril de 2008 del Consejo Global de Energía Eólica (Global Wind Energy Council, GWEC). El mercado de la energía eólica, según el informe, debería crecer otro 155 por ciento (hasta 240GW) de la capacidad total instalada, en 2012.

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Nuevas soluciones de alambre y cable para ambientes a altas temperaturas

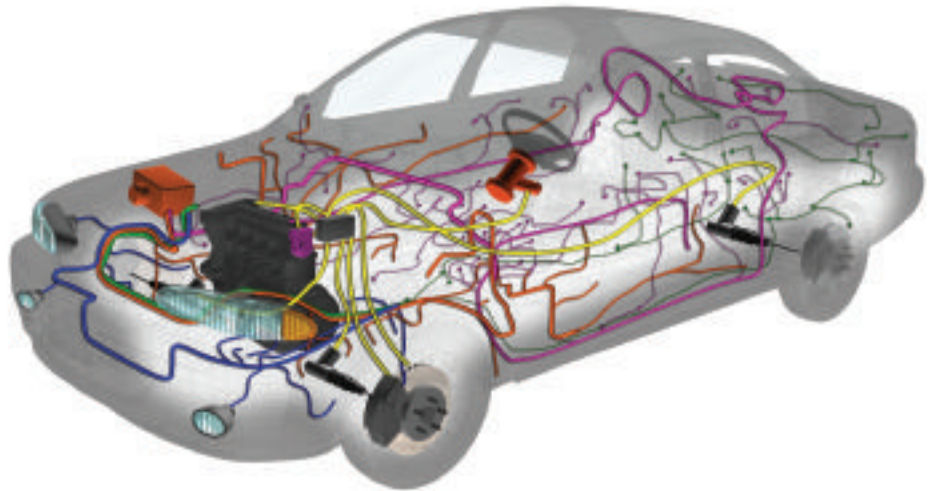
Por Kurt Bolz, experto en de Tecnología de Aplicación de Retardantes de la Llama, de Dow Wire & Cable; Peter Dreux, Ph D, especialista senior en Desarrollo de Nuevos Negocios, de Dow Wire & Cable; y Erik Groot-Enzerink, especialista senior en Desarrollo, de Dow Wire & Cable

Los ambientes a altas temperaturas, como en los que se encuentran inmersos electrodomésticos y automóviles, ofrecen muchos desafíos para los fabricantes de compuestos, productores y usuarios de alambres y cables. Obviamente, la tolerancia a la temperatura es un factor clave para las prestaciones de los compuestos resistentes a altas temperaturas, pero hay muchas otras consideraciones importantes, como las mejoras de procesamiento en las prácticas de producción existentes, las tolerancias ambientales, la facilidad de instalación y una larga vida operativa para la aplicación final.

Los detalles dados por todos los clientes de la cadena de valor han permitido a los ingenieros y directores de marketing de Dow Wire & Cable reconocer la necesidad general de soluciones con buenas prestaciones en ambientes a altas temperaturas. La respuesta a esta necesidad es el compuesto Unigard™ HFDA-1492 NT, de emisiones reducidas (RE) y retardante de la llama (FR), que soporta temperaturas de 125°C; el compuesto ofrece también otras ventajas considerables y cumple las especificaciones de la industria y del mercado del usuario final.

Las necesidades del cliente

El mercado automotriz global es un buen ejemplo de áreas de aplicación en desarrollo por lo que se refiere a los alambres y cables resistentes a altas temperaturas. Desde los sistemas modulares avanzados para la navegación hasta los sistemas de ocio, además de puertas, ventanas y cierres eléctricos centralizados, estos sistemas electrónicos a bordo en continua expansión están incrementando el uso de alambres y cables. Especialmente en el caso de



▲ El mercado automotriz global es un buen ejemplo de áreas de aplicación en desarrollo por lo que se refiere a los alambres y cables resistentes a altas temperaturas

aplicaciones internas, las nuevas soluciones no sólo deben tener las propiedades físicas necesarias para ofrecer resistencia a altas temperaturas, sino que también deben ser compatibles con el proceso de fabricación y ensamblaje del vehículo, además de reducir el peso y los costes.

Para otros sectores, como el de la fabricación de electrodomésticos, además de la tolerancia a altas temperaturas, se ofrecen prestaciones similares, como resistencia, flexibilidad, estabilidad del color y resistencia a los fluidos.

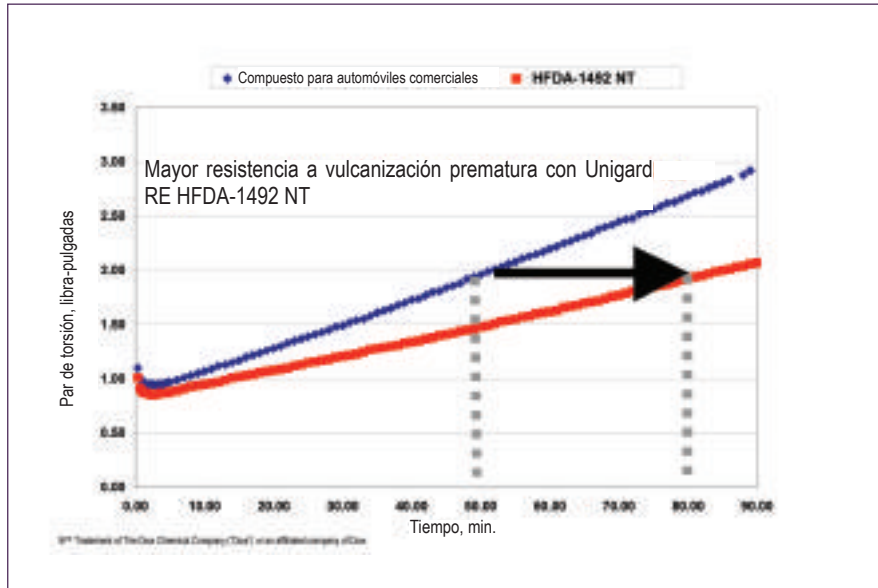
Beneficios ambientales

Además de centrarse en las prestaciones, Dow Wire & Cable se ha comprometido a desarrollar soluciones que orientadas también a objetivos de sostenibilidad ambiental. En todos los sectores industriales, los elementos plásticos que se usan en espacios cerrados deben tener propiedades retardantes de la llama (FR) para ejercer resistencia a la combustión.

Aunque normalmente se usen retardantes de la llama halogenados y no halogenados (HFFR), hay una tendencia general a utilizar retardantes sin halógenos (HFFR), por su menor emisión de humos, toxicidad y corrosividad, además de otros motivos como el envejecimiento y la posibilidad de reciclaje del producto final.

Las formulaciones HFFR o de baja emisión de humos sin halógenos (LSOH), como las requeridas en ambientes a altas temperaturas, necesitan normalmente una cantidad de aditivos elevada, que tiene un impacto significativo sobre las propiedades mecánicas y la procesabilidad. Esto plantea retos únicos por lo que se refiere al desarrollo de materiales, especialmente en sectores donde se usan desde siempre niveles más bajos de retardantes de la llama halogenados (por ejemplo PVC o policloruro de vinilo) para cumplir los requisitos de resistencia a la llama.

El nuevo compuesto Unigard resistente a altas temperaturas de Dow Wire & Cable cumple estos importantes requisitos ambientales y legislativos y ofrece además



prestaciones similares a las del PVC con la ventaja de que es un compuesto LSOH de coste competitivo.

Especificaciones

El compuesto Unigard™ HFDA-1492 NT de emisiones reducidas (RE) y retardante de la llama (FR) cumple las normas de la industria automotriz SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) para las aplicaciones en automóviles, y también las especificaciones de los Underwriters Laboratories Inc (UL) para alambres de electrodomésticos.

Especificaciones para alambre de electrodomésticos:

- Aprobado para materiales para cableado de electrodomésticos (Appliance Wiring Material - AWM)
- UL 44 SIS
- UL 758 AWM estilo 3173 para 125°C
- Requisitos de clase 38

Compuesto	Módulo de flexión (psi)
Unigard RE HFDA-1492 NT	13000=
Compuesto para automóviles comerciales	18600

▲ Tabla 1

Tiempo de vulcanización prematura	Compuesto para automóviles comerciales	UNIGARD™ RE HFDA-1492 NT
Ts1 a 130°C (min)	49	74
Ts1 a 135°C (min)	vulcanización prematura	48

▲ Tabla 2

Especificaciones para alambre de automóviles (aplicaciones internas, 125°C nominales):

- SAE J-1128 cable primario
- SAE J-1127 cable de batería
- Muchas normas de fabricantes globales

Propiedades físicas

HFDA-1492 NT es un compuesto aislante a base de copolímero de polietileno, coloreable, reticulable por peróxido, que cumple la directiva RoHS (restricción de sustancias peligrosas).

El nuevo material es aproximadamente un cuatro por ciento más ligero que los materiales tradicionales utilizados para aplicaciones en el sector automotriz, ofrece mayor rendimiento por libra y, además, resulta menos costoso (Tabla 1). Diseñado para obtener cables más flexibles y más ligeros y para mejorar la retención del

color, el HFDA-1492 NT presenta también un peso específico bajo de 1,35, que ayuda a reducir el consumo del compuesto por longitud del cable, y mejora del 20 al 50% la velocidad de línea en los equipos existentes de los clientes (Tabla 2).

El nuevo aislamiento presenta también baja vulcanización prematura para mayor protección durante los cambios y baja presión de cabeza.

Datos de procesamiento

Una ventana de procesamiento amplia, de 105°C a 135°C, soporta también potencialmente prestaciones de línea más altas. El HFDA-1492 NT se puede extruir fácilmente usando los equipos existentes. Se recomienda usar una hilera de presión adecuada con canal de laminado corto o doble concicidad.

Esta familia de compuestos para altas temperaturas, disponible actualmente en formulaciones que cumplen las especificaciones de Norteamérica, continuará expandiéndose para cumplir las necesidades de los clientes en otras zonas. En Europa, por ejemplo, Dow Wire & Cable conoce bien las necesidades del segmento del mercado y está desarrollando y probando soluciones irradiadas de próxima generación para la T3 y otras especificaciones de zona. ■

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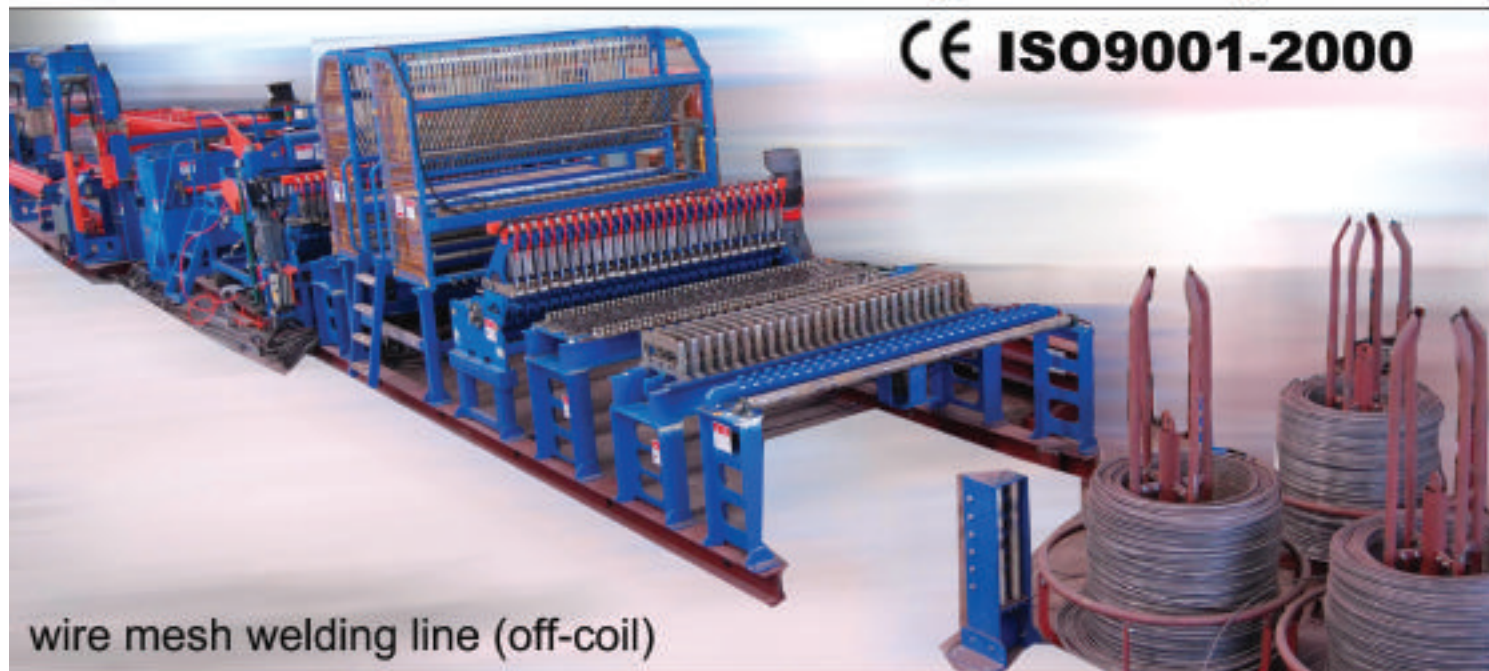
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